Elhady Plaintiffs MSJ Exhibit 25



Date: March 1, 2018

Case: El Hady, et al. -v- Kable, et al.

Planet Depos

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Conducted on March 1, 2018	
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	1 APPEARANCES
2 EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA	2 ON BEHALF OF THE PLAINTIFFS:
ALEXANDRIA DIVISION	3 GADEIR ABBAS, ESQUIRE
x	4 LENA MASRI, ESQUIRE
ANAS EL HADY, ET :	5 CAROLYN HOMER, ESQUIRE
; AL., :	6 Council on American-Islamic Relations
Plaintiffs, : Case No. 16-cv-00375	7 453 New Jersey Avenue, SE
s v. :	8 Washington, D.C. 20003
CHARLES H. KABLE, :	9 202-742-6423
0 Director of the :	10
1 Terrorist Screening :	11
2 Center; in his :	12 ON BEHALF OF THE DEFENDANT CHARLES H
3 official capacity, :	13 KABLE:
4 et al., : 5 Defendants. :	
5 Defendants. : 6 x	14 ANTONIA KONKOLY, ESQUIRE
7 Videotaped Deposition of Terror Screening Center	15 United States Attorney's Office
8 By and through its Designated Representative	16 2100 Jamieson Avenue
9 TIMOTHY P. GROH	17 Alexandria, Virginia 22314-5702
0 Washington, D.C.	18 703-299-3799
Thursday, March 1, 2018	19
9:07 a.m.	20
	21
2	4
Deposition of TIMOTHY P. GROH, held at the	
2 offices of:	2 AMY POWELL, ESQUIRE (via phone)
3	3 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
4	14 210 Novy Dom Ayonyo
	4 310 New Bern Avenue
Department of Homeland Security	5 Federal Building, Suite 800
Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.	
20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.	5 Federal Building, Suite 800
Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.	Federal Building, Suite 800Raleigh, North Carolina 27601
20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	 Federal Building, Suite 800 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 202-514-9836
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20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	5 Federal Building, Suite 800 6 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 7 202-514-9836 8 9 DENA M. ROTH, ESQUIRE 10 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	5 Federal Building, Suite 800 6 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 7 202-514-9836 8 9 DENA M. ROTH, ESQUIRE 10 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 11 20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. 12 Room 7112
20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001 10 11 12 13 Pursuant to Notice, before Carla L. Andrews,	5 Federal Building, Suite 800 6 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 7 202-514-9836 8 9 DENA M. ROTH, ESQUIRE 10 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 11 20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. 12 Room 7112
20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001 10 11 12 13 Pursuant to Notice, before Carla L. Andrews, 4 Notary Public in and for the District of Columbia.	5 Federal Building, Suite 800 6 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 7 202-514-9836 8 9 DENA M. ROTH, ESQUIRE 10 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 11 20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. 12 Room 7112 13 Washington, D.C. 20529-2099 14
20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001 10 11 12 13 Pursuant to Notice, before Carla L. Andrews, 14 Notary Public in and for the District of Columbia.	5 Federal Building, Suite 800 6 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 7 202-514-9836 8 9 DENA M. ROTH, ESQUIRE 10 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 11 20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. 12 Room 7112 13 Washington, D.C. 20529-2099 14 15 JENNIFER GREENBAND, ESQUIRE
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20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001 10 11 12 13 Pursuant to Notice, before Carla L. Andrews, 14 Notary Public in and for the District of Columbia. 15 16 17 18	5 Federal Building, Suite 800 6 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 7 202-514-9836 8 9 DENA M. ROTH, ESQUIRE 10 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 11 20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. 12 Room 7112 13 Washington, D.C. 20529-2099 14 15 JENNIFER GREENBAND, ESQUIRE 16 KEVIN HOULIHAN, ESQUIRE (via phone 17 U.S. Department of Justice 18 601 12th Street, South
20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001 10 11 12 13 Pursuant to Notice, before Carla L. Andrews, 14 Notary Public in and for the District of Columbia. 15 16 17 18 19	5 Federal Building, Suite 800 6 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 7 202-514-9836 8 9 DENA M. ROTH, ESQUIRE 10 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 11 20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. 12 Room 7112 13 Washington, D.C. 20529-2099 14 15 JENNIFER GREENBAND, ESQUIRE 16 KEVIN HOULIHAN, ESQUIRE (via phone 17 U.S. Department of Justice 18 601 12th Street, South 19 Arlington, Virginia 20598
20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001 10 11 12 13 Pursuant to Notice, before Carla L. Andrews, 14 Notary Public in and for the District of Columbia. 15 16 17 18	5 Federal Building, Suite 800 6 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 7 202-514-9836 8 9 DENA M. ROTH, ESQUIRE 10 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 11 20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. 12 Room 7112 13 Washington, D.C. 20529-2099 14 15 JENNIFER GREENBAND, ESQUIRE 16 KEVIN HOULIHAN, ESQUIRE (via phone 17 U.S. Department of Justice 18 601 12th Street, South

Conducted on March 1, 2018

Conducted on	
1 APPEARANCES (CONTINUED): 2 JAYME KANTOR, ESQUIRE	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
1	
3 YEORA PARK, ESQUIRE	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Here begins disk
4 U.S. Department of Justice	4 number one in the videotaped deposition of Timothy
5 935 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.	5 Paul Groh in the matter of Elhady, et al. versus
6 Suite 10140	6 Kable, et al, in the District Court for the Eastern
7 Washington, D.C. 20535	7 District of Virginia, Case No. 16 CV-375. Today's
8 202-324-7194	8 date is March 1, 2018, and the time on the video
9 ALSO PRESENT:	9 monitor is 9:07 a.m. The videographer for today is
10 KEVIN BOGUCKI, Terror Screening Center	10 Joe Donohoe representing Planet Depos. This
11 Law Unit	11 videotaped deposition is taking place at 20
12 MELISSA PACHIKARA, FBI	12 Massachusetts Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D.C.
JOSEPH CLARK, U.S. Customs and Border	Would counsel please voice-identify
14 Protection	14 themselves and state whom they represent?
JOE DONOHOE, Videographer	MR. ABBAS: This is Gadeir Abbas. I am
16	16 here for the plaintiffs.
17	MS. KONKOLY: Antonia Konkoly, for the
18	18 Department of Justice.
19	MR. BOGUCKI: Kevin Bogucki, Terror
20	20 Screening Center Law Unit.
21	21 MS. GREENBAND: Jennifer Greenband,
22	22 Transportation Security Administration.
6	8
1 CONTENTS	1 MS. KANTOR: Jayme Kantor, FBI.
2 EXAMINATION OF TIMOTHY P. GROH PAGE	2 MS. PARK: Yeora Park, TSC.
3 By Mr. Abbas 7	3 MS. PACHIKARA: Melissa Pachikara, FBI.
4	4 MR. CLARK: Joseph Clark, U.S. Customs
5 EXHIBITS	5 and Border Protection.
6 (Attached to transcript)	6 MS. ROTH: Dena Roth, Department of
7 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT PAGE	7 Justice.
8 A Overview of Watchlisting Process 325	8 MS. HOMER: And Carolyn Homer, for the
9 and Procedures	9 plaintiffs.
10 B Defendants' Objections to 350	10 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The court reporter
11 Interrogatories	11 today is Carla Andrews representing Planet Depos.
12	Would the court reporter please swear in
13	13 the witness?
14	14 Thereupon,
15	15 TIMOTHY P. GROH,
16	16 was called as a witness and, after being duly sworn
17	17 by the notary, was examined and testified as
	18 follows:
18	
19	19 EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL
20	20 FOR PLAINTIFFS
21	21 BY MR. ABBAS:
22	22 Q. Good morning, Mr. Groh.

Conducted on March 1, 2018

A. Good morning.

3 A. Yes. sir.

2

- Q. My name is Gadeir Abbas. I am an
- attorney representing the plaintiffs in this action.
- 6 Today I am going to take your deposition. Before I

Q. Am I pronouncing your name correctly?

- 7 begin questioning you, I am going to provide an
- 8 overview that I am sure your attorneys have already
- 9 provided, but I feel obligated to provide now. Do
- 10 you understand that your obligation today is to tell 11 the truth?

12 A. I do.

Q. And during the course of the deposition, 13 14 I will be asking you questions. And because my 15 words and your words are being typed, I will ask 16 that even if you know what the question is going to 17 be that you wait until the very end of my question 18 to respond.

19 A. Certainly.

20 That's not like normal conversations. So 21 unfortunately, despite our best efforts, we will on 22 occasion interrupt each other. And I apologize in Q. When was the Terror Screening Center

3 (9 to 12)

11

- A. It was created in late 2003. 3
- Q. Who created the Terror Screening Center?
- 5 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- THE WITNESS: The TSC was created by the 6
- attorney general at that time.
- BY MR. ABBAS:
- 9 Q. Why did the attorney general create the
- 10 Terror Screening Center?
- A. The attorney general was reacting to the
- 12 best of my understanding to HSPD-6 -- Homeland or
- 13 HSPD-6, which was a presidential order -- an
- 14 executive order directing the attorney general to 15 consolidate the terror watch list.
- Q. Does HSPD-6 govern the operation of the 17 Terror Screening Center?
- 18 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a 19 legal conclusion.
- 20 THE WITNESS: I am not sure what you mean 21 by govern.
- 22 BY MR. ABBAS:

10

1 advance for any interruptions I make. But let's

- just do our best to not interrupt each other?
- A. Of course. 3
- Q. Is there any reason why you are unable to
- provide truthful testimony today?
- A. No.
- Q. What is your understanding of why you are
- here?
- A. I am here to provide testimony on behalf 10 of the Terror Screening Center about TSA procedures 11 and activities.
- Q. You understand that testimony you provide 13 today is binding as to the agency?
- A. I do.
- 15 Q. Great. What is the Terror Screening
- 16 Database? I am sorry. What is the Terror Screening 17 Center?
- A. The Terror Screening Center is an
- 19 interagency center entity administered by the FBI
- 20 but on behalf of the U.S. Government to maintain the
- 21 aforementioned TSDB, otherwise known as the terror
- 22 watch list for the U.S. Government.

- Q. Does the Terror Screening Center operate 1 in accordance with HSPD-6?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a 3 legal conclusion.
- THE WITNESS: I think it operates
- consistently with HSPD-6. But I would say that
- there are many other orders and policies, procedures
- that also govern what we do.
- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Does the Terror Screening Center operate 10 11 in any manner that's inconsistent with HSPD-6?
- 12 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 13 Objection calls for a legal conclusion.
- THE WITNESS: Not that I can think of. 14
- BY MR. ABBAS: 15
- Q. Is it the Terror Screening Center's
- 17 testimony today that HSPD-6 guides what Terror
- 18 Screening Center does?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. 19
- 20 Mischaracterizes prior testimony. Calls for a legal
- 21 conclusion.
- 22 THE WITNESS: The HSPD-6, as previously

Conducted on March 1, 2018

14

1 stated in my previous answer, established and gave

- 2 rise to it. But there have been many subsequent
- 3 executive orders and other direction from the
- 4 attorney general that modifies that. So I think
- 5 there's a whole constellation of authorities that
- govern what we do.
- BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Does another agency control the Terror
- 9 Screening Center?
- 10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- THE WITNESS: Again, what do you mean by 11
- 12 control?
- 13 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Can another federal government agency
- 15 tell the Terror Screening Center what to do?
- 16 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 17 THE WITNESS: The Terror Screening Center
- 18 is an interagency body, which works to facilitate
- 19 the mission of many other agencies. So to say that
- 20 can another agency order us -- is that what you are
- 21 saying? Tell us to do something we don't want to
- 22 do?

BY MR. ABBAS:

- Q. Sure. Let me ask you that. Can another
- agency command the Terror Screening Center to do
- something?
- 5 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- THE WITNESS: The Terror Screening Center 6
- is administered by the FBI, so that our chain of
- command goes through the FBI.
- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 10 Q. So the FBI can tell the Terror Screening
- 11 Center what to do?
- 12 MS. KONKOLY: Objection.
- 13 Mischaracterized prior testimony.
- BY MR. ABBAS:
- 15 Q. I will withdraw my question. Can the FBI
- 16 tell the Terror Screening Center what to do?
- 17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. Go 18 ahead.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Generally, yes.
- 20 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Please elaborate on why you attach the 21
- 22 qualification generally to your answer.

- A. Because in the service of our other
- partners, both from the nominations and the
- encounter side of things, we work to facilitate
- their mission. Our policies and procedures
- generally are governed by whatever the current Watch

4 (13 to 16)

15

- Listing Guidance is, which is promulgated by an
- interagency -- you know, the Watch Listing Advisory
- 8 Council, which certainly includes many, many other
- 9 parties other than the FBI. Generally, that council
- 10 works through consensus. If there is ultimately a
- 11 disagreement, then that's going to be handled
- 12 through other processes. And the FBI, of course, is
- 13 also part of that.
- Q. As an aside, Mr. Groh, at times you will
- 15 hear me say Arizona. At times you will hear me say
- 16 Indiana. I am just making notes to myself in the
- 17 transcript. So please excuse me. What agencies are
- 18 a part of the Watch Listing Advisory Council?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. A complete
- 20 answer to that question would implicate law
- 21 enforcement and potentially state secrets
- 22 privileges. But you can answer to the extent that
- 1 you can without waiving either of those.

 - THE WITNESS: Sure. It is basically made
 - up of agencies that are involved in either
 - nominating identities to the Terror Screening
 - Database or that then screen from our database.
 - That would certainly include our colleagues from
 - both of those pools of organizations. It does
 - 8 include, of course, TSA. It does include the FBI.
 - 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
 - 10 Q. You can go ahead.
 - A. And it includes, for instance, members of 12 the intelligence community. But I can't get into 13 more detail as to specifics with that.
 - Q. I am going -- I don't think you answered
 - 15 the question. What agencies comprise the Watch 16 Listing Advisory Council?

 - MS. KONKOLY: I am going to assert the 18 same objection that a comprehensive answer to that
 - 19 question would implicate the law enforcement
 - 20 privilege. I believe the witness has already
 - 21 answered to the extent that he can without waiving
 - 22 the privilege. To the extent there is anything

5 (17 to 20)

- 1 further to add, you can answer. Otherwise, I will
- 2 further object that the question has been asked and
- 3 answered.
- 4 MR. ABBAS: Just so that I -- I apologize
- 5 for interrupting. Just so the record is clear, are
- 6 you asserting the law enforcement privilege and the
- 7 state secrets privilege over the names of the
- 8 agencies that comprise the Watch Listing Advisory
- 9 Council?
- 10 MS. KONKOLY: Over a comprehensive list 10 11 of all agencies, yes.
- MR. ABBAS: But there are some agencies 13 that you are not asserting the law enforcement and 14 state secrets privilege?
- MS. KONKOLY: I am asserting it over a 16 comprehensive list.
- 17 MR. ABBAS: And it's -- the assertion is 18 of the law enforcement privilege and the state 19 secrets privilege?
- 20 MS. KONKOLY: And potentially the state 21 secrets.
- BY MR. ABBAS: 22
- Q. Is the Terror Screening Center a -- do
- 2 you call the agency members of the Watch Listing
- 3 Advisory Council? What's the language that the
- 4 inter-agencies use?
- A. Yes, I would say members.
- Q. Is the Terror Screening Center a member 7 of the Watch Listing Advisory Council?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potentially it
- 9 calls for information in the -- that would fall
- 10 within the parameters of the law enforcement,
- 11 potentially state secrets privilege. We cannot go
- 12 agency by agency because that would ultimately
- 13 result in a comprehensive list of everyone. So we
- 14 cannot proceed in that manner without calling those
- 15 privileges into play. However --
- 16 MR. ABBAS: He has already answered. He 16 17 has already said that the Terror Screening Center is 18 part of Watch Listing Advisory Council?
- MS. KONKOLY: Okay. Then that question 19 20 has been asked and answered.
- 21 MR. ABBAS: Are you instructing him not
- 22 to answer?

- MS. KONKOLY: It has been asked and 1
- answered. I will state that objection and --
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
- 4 Q. Is the Terror Screening Center a member
- of the Watch Listing Advisory Council?
- MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. You can answer.
- 8 THE WITNESS: I said already yes.
- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Is the FBI a member of the Watch Listing 11 Advisory Council?
- 12 MS. KONKOLY: I am going to again assert
- 13 the same privileges. A comprehensive list of
- 14 everyone on the Advisory Council interagency council
- 15 would implicate the state secret -- potentially the
- 16 state secrets privilege and the law enforcement
- 17 privilege. We can't proceed agency by agency in
- 18 this manner, because to do so would ultimately
- 19 result in that comprehensive list.

BY MR. ABBAS:

- 21 Q. I am going to ask --
- 22 MS. KONKOLY: However, I will allow the
- witness to answer the question to the extent that he
- believes he can without waiving those privileges as
- to this particular agency.
- MR. ABBAS: I will just ask that the
- defendant's counsel not engage in speaking
- objections. Just make the objections. If you want
- to instruct him not to answer, you are free to do
- that.

20

- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 10 Q. Is the FBI a member of the Watch Listing 11 Advisory Council?
- 12 MS. KONKOLY: All the same objection that 13 I just stated.
- 14 THE WITNESS: In this case, yes.
- 15 BY MR. ABBAS:
- O. Is the TSA a member of the Watch Listing 17 Advisory Council?
- MS. KONKOLY: I am going to again object 18
- 19 on the basis of law enforcement privilege,
- 20 potentially state secrets privilege. A
- 21 comprehensive list of everybody on the council would
- 22 implicate those privileges. However, you can answer

Transcript of Timothy P. Groh, Designated Representative

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1 that question to the extent that you believe you

- 2 can. You cannot go too much further down this road 2
- 3 or I will need to instruct him not to answer.
- THE WITNESS: I don't believe I can go
- 5 any further.
- 6 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 7 Q. Is CDP a member of the Watch Listing
- 8 Advisory Council?
- 9 MS. KONKOLY: I am going to assert the 10 law enforcement and potentially the state secrets 11 privilege and on that basis instruct the witness not
- 12 to answer.
- 13 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 14 Q. Is the National Security Agency a member 15 of the Watch Listing Advisory Council.
- MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object on the 17 basis of the law enforcement privilege and 18 potentially the state secrets privilege. On the 19 basis of those privileges, I am going to instruct 20 the witness not to answer.
- 21 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 22 O. You are not answering?

1 through a bunch of these. Is the Department of the

6 (21 to 24)

23

24

- 2 Air Force a member of the Watch Listing Advisory
- 3 Council?
- 4 MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object on the
- 5 basis of law enforcement privilege, potentially
- 6 state secrets privilege. On the basis of those
- 7 privileges, I am going to instruct the witness not
- 8 to answer.
- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 10 Q. Is the Department of Justice a member of 11 the Watch Listing Advisory Council.
- MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object on the
- 13 basis of the law enforcement privilege, potentially
- 14 the state secrets privilege. On the basis of those
- 15 privileges, I am going to instruct the witness not 16 to answer.
- 17 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 18 Q. How does an agency become a member of the 19 Watch Listing Advisory Council?
- 20 MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object.
- 21 Vague, potentially law enforcement, potential state
- 22 secrets. You can answer to the extent you can.

1 A. That's correct.

- Q. Is the Department of Homeland Security a
- 3 member of the Watch Listing Advisory Council?
- 4 MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object on the
- 5 basis of law enforcement privilege, potentially
- 6 state secrets privilege. On the basis of those
- 7 privileges, I am going to instruct the witness not
- 8 to answer.
- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 10 Q. You are not answering?
- 11 A. I am not answering.
- 12 Q. Is the NCTC a member of the Watch Listing 13 Advisory Council?
- MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object on the 15 basis of law enforcement privilege and potentially
- 15 basis of law emoreement privilege and potentially
- 16 the state secrets privilege. And on the basis of
- 17 those privileges, I am going to instruct the witness 18 not to answer.
- 19 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 20 Q. You are not answering?
- 21 A. I am not answering.
- 22 Q. And I apologize. We just have to go

- THE WITNESS: I believe the guidance
- 2 itself stipulates to certain members. And I think
- 3 other agencies who believe that they may have
- 4 equities in the watch listing and screening process
- 5 could make their desire known. And then I think the
- 6 Watch Listing Advisory Council would decide whether
- 7 or not an additional party could join.
- BY MR. ABBAS:
- 9 Q. Does an agency have final authority over 10 what the Watch Listing Advisory Council does?
- 11 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 12 Objection. Potentially calls for law enforcement 13 privileged information. You can answer to the
- 14 extent you can.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Do you mean does a 16 particular agency?
- 17 MR. ABBAS: Could you read back the 18 question.
- (The record was read.)
- 20 MS. KONKOLY: Same objections.
- 21 THE WITNESS: I believe I already
- 22 testified that we will work via a consensus. So

7 (25 to 28)

Conducted on March 1, 2018 25 27 1 there is no agency. It is a body that comes THE WITNESS: It creates a forum for together to hopefully reach consensus. 2 interagency discussion about how the watch listing BY MR. ABBAS: and screening enterprise functions amongst the 3 Q. Does an agency lead the Watch Listing different agencies. 5 Advisory Council? BY MR. ABBAS: MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 6 Q. Does the Watch Listing Advisory Council 7 Objection. Potentially calls for law enforcement produce the Watch Listing Guidance? 8 information. You can answer to extent that you can. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. THE WITNESS: There are -- without 9 Objection. Potentially law enforcement. But you 10 can answer to the extent you can. 10 getting into details as to who they are, there are THE WITNESS: If you mean by produce 11 two agencies that lead it, one of which is I will 12 effectively write that guidance, yes. 12 say is the TSC. 13 BY MR. ABBAS: 13 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. The Watch Listing Advisory Council writes Q. What is the other agency that leads the 14 15 Watch Listing Advisory Council? 15 the Watch Listing Guidance? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for law 16 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. 16 17 enforcement privileges. Calls for potentially state 17 Mischaracterizes prior testimony. Go ahead. 18 secrets. You can answer if you believe you can. BY MR. ABBAS: 18 THE WITNESS: I don't believe I can 19 19 Q. I am sorry. Let me just --20 answer. 20 A. Please. Q. Is it TSC's testimony today that the 21 BY MR. ABBAS: 21 22 Q. Is it the defendant that leads -- that 22 Watch Listing Advisory Council writes and publishes 26 1 co-leads the Watch Listing Advisory Council? 1 the Watch Listing Guidance? MS. KONKOLY: I'm sorry. I didn't hear MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. Objection. Potentially law enforcement. You can 3 that question. answer if you can. 4 BY MR. ABBAS: 5 THE WITNESS: When I say writes, I mean Q. The Terror Screening Center is the 6 defendant. Is the other leader of the Watch Listing 6 there is interagency discussion to agree to 7 language. So from that definition of write, yes. 7 Advisory Council a defendant? MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object on the 8 And if you mean publish, if you mean then provides 9 same grounds. Potentially law enforcement and 9 that to U.S. Government's entities and then 10 potentially state secrets. You can answer if you 10 participate in that process, the answer would also 11 be yes. 11 can. 12 THE WITNESS: I don't know exactly who 12 BY MR. ABBAS: 13 all the defendants are. But even if it is, I don't Q. How does the Watch Listing Advisory 14 Council act? Would it like vote to finalize the 14 believe I can answer that.

15 BY MR. ABBAS:

O. We have asked for all defendants. What 17 does the Watch Listing Advisory Council do?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

19 Objection. Potentially calls for law enforcement or 20 state secrets. It's a privileged comprehensive

21 answer. But you can answer to the extent you

22 believe you can.

17 enforcement. You can -- objection. Vague. You can 18 answer if you can.

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potentially law

19 THE WITNESS: Generally, it is going to 20 work by unanimous consent.

21 BY MR. ABBAS:

15 Watch Listing Guidance?

22 Q. Has the Watch Listing Guidance -- is the

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1	current Watch Listing Guidance that TSC utilizes the
1	current water Listing Outdance that 150 unitzes the

- 2 product of the unanimous consensus of the Watch
- 3 Listing Advisory Council?
- 4 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 5 Objection. Potentially law enforcement sensitive.
- 6 But you can answer if you can.
- 7 THE WITNESS: I wasn't at the TSC when
- 8 the most recent guidance was promulgated. But to
- 9 the best of my knowledge, yes.
- 10 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 11 Q. What are the functions of the Terror
- 12 Screening Center?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 14 Objection. Potentially law enforcement and state
- 15 secrets in a comprehensive answer. But you can 16 answer to the extent that you can.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Generally, it is to
- 18 consolidate the U.S. Government's approach to
- 19 terrorist watch listing, to build and maintain the
- 20 Terror Screening Database, and to provide that to
- 21 appropriate screening agencies in support of their
- 22 various missions.

BY MR. ABBAS:

- Q. Does TSC serve a function that's
- 3 unrelated to the Terror Screening Database?
- 4 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 5 Objection. Potentially law enforcement sensitive.
- 6 But you can answer to the extent that you can.
- 7 THE WITNESS: Can you restate the
- 8 question? Do we do --
- 9 MR. ABBAS: Can you read back the 10 question?
- 11 (The record was read.)
- MS. KONKOLY: Same objections.
- 13 THE WITNESS: I would say that is by far
- 14 our bigger function. Beyond that, I think -- I
- 15 don't think I can go into detail.
- 16 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 17 Q. What functions does the Terror Screening
- 18 Center serve that are unrelated to the Terror
- 19 Screening Database?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 21 Objection. Potentially calls for law enforcement
- 22 sensitive information. You can answer to the extent

- 1 that you can.
- THE WITNESS: I don't believe there is
- anything additional I can say that's not privileged.
- 4 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Going back to the Watch Listing Advisory
- 6 Council, when did the Watch Listing Advisory Council

8 (29 to 32)

31

- come into existence?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 9 THE WITNESS: I don't know the precise 10 answer to that.
- 11 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 12 Q. Did the Watch Listing Advisory Council
- 13 come into existence before 2005?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 15 THE WITNESS: I don't know.
- 16 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 17 Q. Did the Watch Listing Advisory Council
- 18 come into existence before 2010?
- 19 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- THE WITNESS: I believe so, but I don't
- 21 know precisely beyond that.
- 22 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. So it is your testimony today -- Indiana.
 - 2 Is it TSC's testimony today that the Watch Listing
 - 3 Advisory Council came into existence prior to 2010?
 - 4 A. I believe so.
 - Q. When did the Watch Listing Advisory
 - 6 Council produce the first version of the Watch
 - 7 Listing Guidance?
 - 8 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
 - 9 Objection. Potentially law enforcement. You can
 - 10 answer to the extent that you can.
 - 11 THE WITNESS: To the best of my
 - 12 knowledge, sometime around 2008, but I am not sure
 - 13 before that. I would say by 2008.
 - 14 BY MR. ABBAS:
 - 15 Q. So it is the Terror Screening Center's
 - 16 testimony that by 2008 the Watch Listing Advisory
 - 17 Council had published a Watch Listing Guidance?
 - MS. KONKOLY: Objection.
 - 19 Mischaracterized his prior testimony.
 - THE WITNESS: To the best of my
 - 21 knowledge, yes.
 - 22 BY MR. ABBAS:

9 (33 to 36)

Conducted on	March 1, 2018
Q. The title of that first Watch Listing Guidance, was the title of that first Watch Listing Guidance Watch Listing Guidance 20082	1 of times it has been updated. 2 BY MR. ABBAS: 3 Q. Has the Watch Listing Guidance been
 Guidance Watch Listing Guidance 2008? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potentially 	4 updated more than 10 times since the Watch Listing
5 calls for law enforcement or potentially state 6 secrets information. But you can answer to the	6 Listing Guidance?
7 extent that you can. 8 BY MR. ABBAS: 9 Q. And just to clarify, I am just asking for	MS. KONKOLY: I am going to make the same objections. Potentially law enforcement and potentially state secrets. And I will, again, note
10 the title of the document. 11 MS. KONKOLY: Okay.	10 that I am not sure that this is clearly within the 11 scope. And if at a certain point we continue to
12 THE WITNESS: I am not sure. Quite 13 honestly, I was trying to think if I was, but I am	12 press this line of questioning, I may need to 13 instruct not to answer. But for now you can go
14 actually not sure. This is all quite before my 15 time.	14 ahead and answer. 15 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I don't think I I
BY MR. ABBAS: 17 Q. Sure. But you are testifying on behalf	16 don't think I can, the precise number of times or 17 even a characterization of within along these lines.
18 of the Terror Screening Center? 19 A. Sure.	18 I just don't think I will be able to answer that. 19 BY MR. ABBAS:
20 Q. Was it the Watch Listing Advisory 21 Council's practice to revise and publish new	20 Q. Have there been years where the Watch 21 Listing Advisory Council has not updated the Watch
22 versions of the Watch Listing Guidance each year	22 Listing Guidance? 36
1 since 2008? 2 MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object on the	1 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 2 Objection. Calls for law enforcement sensitive
basis of potentially law enforcement, potentiallystate secrets, and also state an objection based on	3 information. You can answer to the extent that you 4 can.
5 the scope of the topics that we are limited to6 today. But I will allow the witness to answer to	5 THE WITNESS: Same answer. I can't 6 answer that.
7 the extent that he can. 8 THE WITNESS: I think the only thing I	7 BY MR. ABBAS: 8 Q. You can't tell me what's the basis for
9 can say about that is that it is periodically 10 updated.	9 I am sorry. Just so the record is real clear, 10 what's the basis for the objection to him answering
BY MR. ABBAS: 12 Q. How many times has the Watch Listing	11 whether the Watch Listing Guidance has been updated 12 every single year?
13 Guidance been updated by the Watch Listing Advisory 14 Council?	MS. KONKOLY: The categories that we have 14 designated don't necessarily entail every change to
MS. KONKOLY: I am going to make the same 16 objections. Potentially law enforcement,	15 the Watch Listing Guidance going back to the 16 beginning of the inception of the council. 17 BY MR. ABBAS:
17 potentially state secrets. And I will again note	BY MR. ABBAS:

20 Listing Guidance since 2008?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And those revisions are the product of

19 Have there been multiple revisions to the Watch

Q. Fair enough. Let me try a different way.

18 scope issue. I am not sure if this is clearly

21

19 within the scope that we are proceeding on today,

22 without getting into privilege, get into the number

THE WITNESS: I don't think I can,

20 but I will allow the witness to answer if he can.

Conducted on March 1, 2018

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the Watch Listing Advisory Council's consultative
 process?
 A. Yes.
 Q. And the Watch Listing Guidance has been

the product of the Watch Listing Advisory Council's

6 unanimous consensus each time it has been issued?

A. To the best of my knowledge, yes.

Q. What is the Terror Screening Database? I

9 am sorry. A few more questions on the Terror

10 Screening Center. The Terror Screening Center, you

11 said, was created in 2003?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Was there -- did the Watch Listing

14 Advisory Council exist in 2003?

15 A. Pursuant to my previous answer, I don't16 know precisely when that body was composed. I know

17 the attorney general directed the FBI to stand up

18 Terror Screening Center in 2003. I don't know the 19 precise sequence of events following that.

Q. And you might not know, and that's fine.

21 You know, if you don't know, that's a reasonable

22 answer. But just for the clarity of the record, did

1 the Watch Listing Advisory Council exist in 2003?

2 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and 3 answered.

THE WITNESS: I don't know when it was

5 established, so.

6 MR. ABBAS: Indiana.

7 BY MR. ABBAS:

8 Q. Did the Watch Listing Advisory Council

9 produce a Watch Listing Guidance in 2003?

10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. I am going to

11 object on the basis of the scope of the topics we

12 have before us today and also potential law

13 enforcement sensitive information. You can answer 14 if you can.

15 THE WITNESS: I think I have. If I don't 16 know if it existed, I wouldn't know if it did 17 something.

18 BY MR. ABBAS:

19 Q. Is there a Watch Listing Guidance as old 20 as 2003?

21 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and

22 answered. And same objections as I stated

1 previously.

THE WITNESS: I don't know.

MR. ABBAS: Indiana.

4 I will just note, for the record, that

5 the Magistrate Judge Anderson made it really clear

6 in the hearing a few weeks ago that he quote, thinks

10 (37 to 40)

39

40

7 there needs to be some discussion as to how this has

8 evolved over time if that has evolved over time and

9 what period of time. Quote, this has to be put in 10 some context of a continuum, not just on the day

11 that the deposition gets taken.

MS. KONKOLY: And I would note, for the 13 record, that that discussion was in the context of

14 measures to improve the reliability and accuracy of

15 the watch listing process. And we are prepared to

16 testify about that today, but we do not understand

17 that instruction to cover every iteration Watch

18 Listing Guidance going back to 2003. So at a 19 certain point, I will need to invoke the protective 20 order.

21 BY MR. ABBAS:

22 Q. What is the Terror Screening Database?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

2 Objection. Potentially it calls for law enforcement

sensitive information or state secrets privilege.

4 But you can answer to the extent that you can.

THE WITNESS: The Terror Screening

6 Database is the consolidated watch list with respect

7 to terrorism for the United States Government.

BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Who owns the Terror Screening Database?

10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

11 THE WITNESS: If you mean who is

12 responsible to maintain it, ownership, I think,

13 maybe has different connotations. But if I take it

14 that that is your meaning, it is administered by the

15 Terror Screening Center.

16 BY MR. ABBAS:

17 Q. Who controls the Terror Screening

18 Database?

19 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

20 THE WITNESS: The Terror Screening

21 Center.

22 BY MR. ABBAS:

Conducted on March 1, 2018

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Q. It was TSC's testimony today that the FBI

2 controls the Terror Screening Center; is that

3 correct?

4 MS. KONKOLY: Objection.

5 Mischaracterizes his prior testimony. Objection.

6 Vague.

7 THE WITNESS: It is by direction of the

8 attorney general administered by the FBI. But see

9 my prior testimony with regard to the role of the

10 Watch Listing Advisory Council.

11 BY MR. ABBAS:

12 Q. Does the FBI control the Terror Screening

13 Database?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and

15 answered. Objection vague.

16 THE WITNESS: The FBI administers the

17 Terror Screening Center. The Terror Screening

18 Center administers the TSDB.

19 BY MR. ABBAS:

20 Q. Can the FBI tell the Terror Screening

21 Center what to do with the Terror Screening

22 Database?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

2 Objection. Asked and answered.

THE WITNESS: I think that's an over

4 simplification of my prior testimony.

5 MR. ABBAS: There is a question. Can you

6 read back the question?

7 (The record was read.)

MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. And I

9 will add -- sorry. I lost my train of thought.

10 Mischaracterizes prior testimony.

11 THE WITNESS: I go back to my same

12 answer. The form you put that leading question in

13 assumes certain things I have not testified to. And

14 my answer is it is more complex than that.

15 BY MR. ABBAS:

16 Q. So I will ask leading questions. And

17 if --

18 A. I know. And I will answer them as -- and 19 I will answer them as --

Q. You haven't answered it. So just let's

21 -- let me try asking it a different way. Who is the 22 person in charge of the Terror Screening Center?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

11 (41 to 44)

43

44

2 THE WITNESS: The director of the Terror

3 Screening Center.

BY MR. ABBAS:

5 Q. And what's his name?

6 A. Charles Kable.

Q. Does he have a boss?

8 A. He does.

Q. Who is his boss?

10 A. The executive assistant director for the

11 National Security of the FBI.

12 Q. Can the executive assistant director -- I

13 am sorry. What was the title one more time?

14 A. Executive assistant director for National 15 Security.

16 Q. So the executive assistant director for

17 National Security of the FBI is the boss of the head

18 of the Terror Screening Center, correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Can the boss of the Terror Screening

21 Center's head tell the Terror Screening Center head

22 what to do?

42

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

2 Objection. Asked and answered. Objection.

3 Misleading.

THE WITNESS: Again, I think we are at

5 the same place we were before. Yes. And there is

6 also an important role for the Watch Listing

7 Advisory Council and the interagency to play in

8 governing how the Terror Screening Center functions.

9 If the -- if there is disagreement, then those

10 disagreements would be resolved through the National

11 Security Council.

12 BY MR. ABBAS:

13 Q. They wouldn't be resolved through the

14 Watch Listing Advisory Council?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

16 Objection.

17 THE WITNESS: Going with this construct,

18 then the situation you are describing is whether

19 there is not consensus with the terrorist with the

20 Watch Listing Advisory Council. Disagreements

21 within when the consensus can't be reached are

22 resolved through National Security Council

PLANET DEPOS

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1 processes.

2 BY MR. ABBAS:

3 Q. Is the Watch Listing Advisory Council advisory or can it tell the Terror Screening Center

what to do?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 6

THE WITNESS: Since I have already

8 testified that the Terror Screening Center is a

9 member of the Watch Listing Advisory Council, that

10 would mean there is not a consensus within the

11 council. And, again, that would go to the national

12 security process. And, certainly, the

13 administration through the national security process 14 can tell the TSC what to do.

Q. So the National Security Council ask tell 16 the Terror Screening Center what to do?

17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection.

18 Mischaracterizes priors testimony. Objection 19 misleading. Objection. Vague. You can answer if 20 you can.

21 THE WITNESS: As part of the Executive 22 Branch of the U.S. Government, yes.

46

BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Can the EPA tell the Terror Screening

Center what to do?

A. No.

Q. Okay. Can the FBI tell the Terror 5

Screening Center what to do?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

8 Objection. Misleading. Objection. Asked and

9 answered. This question has been posed five times

10 at this point. And I may need to start instructing 11 the witness not to answer if it is asked again.

12 MR. ABBAS: And I am just struggling to 13 understand. So I apologize for -- the repetition is

14 for my sake. And I apologize for covering ground 15 that I might have already covered. I just want to

16 make sure that I have a clear understanding of how

17 the Terror Screening Center works.

MS. KONKOLY: I am just going to note, 19 for the record, that I believe that is the fourth or

20 fifth time that exact question has been asked. I

21 will allow the witness to answer one more time.

22 After that, I am going to instruct not to answer of

1 that question is posed in the exact same terms.

12 (45 to 48)

47

BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Sure. So I am going to pose it in a

4 little different terms. In what sense is the

executive assistant director of the National

Security of the FBI the boss of the head of the

Terror Screening Center?

A. I think that's really, really broad and

9 vague, hard to answer. I would say that he is the

10 boss in the sense that that is normally generally

11 thought of with the caveat that there are --

12 basically, if higher management in the FBI

13 instructed the Terror Screening Center to do

14 something that was contrary to the consensus reached

15 by the Watch Listing Advisory Council, there is a

16 process to go higher in the government to resolve

17 those differences. And even though the Terror

18 Screening Center is administered by the FBI, it is

19 truly an interagency center. And it is a complex --

20 what I am trying to explain is it is complex. There

21 is not a simple answer to your question.

Q. Yeah, I agree that it is complex. And so

1 has there ever been a disagreement between TSC and

the FBI as to how to administer the Terror Screening

Database?

MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object

insofar as that calls for deliberative process

information within the deliberative process

privilege. You can answer to the extent that you

can.

9 THE WITNESS: I don't think I can get

10 into specifics. But I think I can say that yes, we

11 have had disagreements with our FBI colleagues from

12 time to time.

13 BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Has the National Security Council

15 resolved disagreements between the FBI and TSC

16 regarding the TSDB?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

18 Objection. Potentially deliberative process.

19 Objection. Potentially law enforcement. You can

20 answer to extent that you can.

21 BY MR. ABBAS:

22 Q. And just to clarify, I am just asking for

13 (49 to 52)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

Conducted on	March 1, 2018
49	51
1 decisions of the National Security Council. Has the	1 THE WITNESS: If you want me to answer.
2 National Security Council ever made decisions that	2 MR. ABBAS: Do you want us to step out?
3 resolved differences of opinion between the Terror	3 MS. KONKOLY: You can step out.
4 Screening Center and the FBI as to how the TSDB	4 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the
5 should be maintained and operated?	5 record. The time is 9:49 a.m.
6 MS. KONKOLY: Same objection. But you	6 (A recess was held.)
7 can answer.	7 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the
8 THE WITNESS: Not to my knowledge.	8 record. The time is 10:04 a.m. And we have been on
9 BY MR. ABBAS:	9 the record for 42 minutes and 3 seconds.
10 Q. So in the history of the Terror Screening	MR. ABBAS: Could you read the last
11 Center, there has never been a disagreement between	11 question, please? Oh, I'm sorry. Lena Masri is now
12 the Terror Screening Center and the FBI that the	12 here for the plaintiffs. Could you read the last
13 National Security Council has made a decision to	13 question back?
14 resolve?	14 (The record was read.)
MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object.	MS. KONKOLY: And I am going to object
16 Mischaracterized his prior testimony. I am going to	16 that that calls for a legal conclusion. I am going
17 make an objection based on the scope of the topics	17 to object on the basis of the scope of the
18 before us here today. You can answer to the extent	18 protective order that was entered. And I am also
19 that and also vagueness. You can answer to	19 going to object insofar as the answer to that
20 extent that you can.	20 question involves information that is within the
THE WITNESS: Not that I am aware of.	21 purview of another agency and note that while
22 BY MR. ABBAS:	22 Mr. Groh can answer this question based on his
50	52
1 Q. Is the National Security Council's	1 understanding he cannot bind any other agency with
2 authority to resolve differences between the Terror	2 his answer.
3 Screening Center and the FBI as to how to TSDB	3 THE WITNESS: So I think the
4 should be the maintained and operated memorialized	4 generally, I wasn't sure if there was a privilege
5 in some document?	5 associated with it. But I don't believe there is.
6 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.	6 NSPM-4, which was published last year, which lays
7 Objection. Potentially law enforcement. You can	7 out National Security Council procedures generally,
8 answer if you can.	8 is the process that would be used to resolve any
9 THE WITNESS: I believe it is generally	9 differences between any members of the Watch Listing
10 memorialized in the executive order.	10 Advisory Council, include the TSC and the FBI.
11 BY MR. ABBAS:	11 MR. ABBAS: Arizona.
12 Q. HSPD-6?	12 BY MR. ABBAS:
MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a	13 Q. NSPM-4?
14 legal conclusion.	14 A. National Security Presidential Memorandum
THE WITNESS: I may have to confer. I am	15 4.
16 not sure if that document itself is privileged. I'm	16 Q. And the National Security Presidential
17 not sure.	17 A. Memoranda or memorandum.
MR. ABBAS: Do you want to take a second?	18 Q. The National Security Presidential
MS. KONKOLY: If the witness needs advice	19 Memorandum was first published in 2017; is that
20 as to whether he can answer without waiving the	20 correct?
21 privilege, we would ask to take a break.	21 A. This particular one, yes.
MR. ABBAS: It's up to you.	22 Q. Are there prior versions of the NSPM?

14 (53 to 56)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a 2 legal conclusion. Objection. Based on the scope of 3 the protective order, I think this is pretty — 4 getting a little far affeld of the topics we have 4 getting a little far affeld of the topics we have 5 agreed to and the court has entered. And I am going 6 to object insofar as, again, his answer calls for 7 information within the purview of another agency. 8 Mr. Groh can testify as to his understanding about 9 the answer to this question. But he cannot bind 10 another agency with his answer. 11 MR. ABBAS: And the first topic is the 12 Terror Screening Center's role in the TSDB 13 nominations process. It appears that the Terror 14 Screening Center is part of the Watch Listing 15 Advisory Council. It is the deponent's testimony 16 today that the Watch Listing Advisory Council and 17 the National Security Council play a role in the TSDB nomination process. I am asking for the TSC's 19 role in the TSDB nomination process with regards to 20 this NCPM (sic) document, so— 21 MS. KONKOLY: Okay. And I would note 22 just, for the record, that the court expressly ruled 54 today's deposition. I will reassert all the same 3 privilege. And Mr. Groh can answer to the extent that he can. 5 THE WITNESS: Yeah. Let's repeat the 6 question. Ilost it after all of that. 5 Mght. 10 A. Right. 11 Q. So there is an NCPM (sic) document, so— 2 Mght. ABBAS: A manual provides for this administration process with regards to 20 Ms. KONKOLY: Okay. I am going to object insofar as this 21 answer calls for information within the purview of 22 another agency. Mr. Groh can answer as to his 23 and branch and the court and 15 the manual provides for this administration process. I am asking for the TSC's 18 lat — 19 The Witness: So, first of all, it is 22 NSPM. ABBAS: 3 the provides for this and the provi	Conducted on	I March 1, 2018
2 legal conclusion. Objection. Based on the scope of 3 the protective order, I think this is pretty— 3 getting a little far affeld of the topics we have 4 getting a little far affeld of the topics we have 5 agreed to and the court has entered. And I am going 6 to object insofar as, again, his answer calls for 6 information within the purview of another agency. 8 Mr. Groh can testify as to his understanding about 9 the answer to this question. But he cannot bind 10 another agency with his answer. 11 MR. ABBAS: And the first topic is the 12 Terror Screening Center's role in the TSDB 13 nominations process. I am papears that the Terror 14 Screening Center is part of the Watch Listing 15 Advisory Council. It is the deponent's testimony 16 today that the Watch Listing Advisory Council and 17 the National Security Council play a role in the 18 TSDB nomination process. I am asking for the TSC's 19 role in the TSDB nomination process. I am asking for the TSC's 19 role in the TSDB nomination process with regards to 20 this NCPM (sic) document, so—21 MS. KONKOLY: Okay. And I would note 22 just, for the record, that the court expressly ruled 1 out sources of legal authority as a valid topic for 2 today's deposition. I will reassert all the same 3 privilege. And Mr. Groh can answer to the extent 4 that the can. 5 THE WITNESS: Yeah. Let's repeat the 6 question. I lost it after all of that. 7 BY MR. ABBAS: 9 Q. And just to be clear, I am only asking 9 whether documents exist, right? 10 A. Right. 11 Q. So there is an NCPM (sic) published in 2017 15 memorializes how a dispute between the Terror 16 Screening Center and the FBI would be resolved? 17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. And I am 19 going to object based on the scope of the protective 20 order. I am going to a gain object insofar as this 21 answer calls for information within the purview of 12 the protective 20 order. I am going to a gain object insofar as this 21 answer calls for information within the purview of 12 the protective 20 order. I am going to a gain objec		55
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122 another agency. Mr. Groh can answer as to his 22 A. I don't know.	10.1	
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Conducted on March 1, 2018

57 MR. ABBAS: Arizona, Indiana. 2 BY MR. ABBAS: 3 Q. Who is responsible for promulgating NSPM-4? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a 6 legal conclusion. Objection. Beyond the scope of 7 the protective order entered by the court. 8 Objection insofar as this information calls for 9 information within the purview of another agency. 10 Mr. Groh cannot bind another agency with his answer. 11 But you can answer to the extent that you can. MR. ABBAS: Can we just -- I'm sorry. 13 Can we just make that -- I mean, that objection is 14 applicable to every single question I will ask that 15 Mr. Groh's testimony today is not going to bind any 16 other agency because it can't. I am not asking him 17 to bind any other agency. Can we just stipulate, 18 for the record, that every single question I ask 19 that you will make the objection that Mr. Groh 20 testimony's cannot bind other agencies? MS. KONKOLY: There are questions you 21 22 could ask that would go simply to what the TSC does

Q. Why did the Terror Screening Center create the Terror Screening Database?

15 (57 to 60)

59

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

4 Objection. Calls for information that may be subject to the law enforcement privilege or the

6 state secrets privilege. You can answer to the

extent that you can.

8 THE WITNESS: To fulfill our mandate, to 9 consolidate the various watch-listed or various 10 watch lists that existed before 9/11.

11 BY MR. ABBAS:

12 Q. Did -- has the Terror Screening Center -- 13 I am sorry. Has the Terror Screening Database 14 always had inclusion standards?

15 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague 16 objection.

17 BY MR. ABBAS:

18 Q. I am going to withdraw. I'm going to 19 withdraw that question. What are the terror 20 screening databases inclusion standards?

21 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

22 Objection. Calls for information within the law

58

1 that would bind the agency. And I think to make a

2 clear record, I think I need to make the objection

3 when you are straying outside of those lines.

4 BY MR. ABBAS:

5 Q. Who decided what the contents of NSPM-4 6 would be?

7 A. An NSPM is signed by the president of the 8 United States.

- 9 Q. Does NSPM-4 regard matters that do not 10 include the TSDB?
- 11 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 12 Objection. Calls for a legal conclusion.
- 13 Objection. Beyond the scope of the protective
- 14 order. Objection insofar as this information calls
- 15 and -- this question calls for information within
- 16 the purview of other agencies.
- 17 THE WITNESS: I believe it governs the
- 18 functioning generally of the National Security
- 19 Council, which would certainly include many matters
- 20 that are outside the scope of the TSC or the Watch
- 21 Listing Enterprise.
- 22 BY MR. ABBAS:

1 enforcement privilege, state secrets privilege, SSI.

2 You can answer to the extent that you can.

THE WITNESS: Generally, the standard for

4 inclusion is that we have minimum biographic 5 information and that it meets the reasonable

6 suspicion standard.

BY MR. ABBAS:

- 8 Q. Has the Terror Screening Database always 9 had a reasonable suspicion -- I am sorry. Has the 10 Terror Screening Database always had the same
- 11 inclusion standard?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 13 Objection. Beyond the scope of the protective
- 14 order. Objection. Calls for information within the
- 15 law enforcement privilege, potentially state
- 16 secrets, potentially SSI. You can answer to the 17 extent that you can.
- 18 THE WITNESS: Generally, I believe it has 19 always been the reasonable suspicion standard.
- 20 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 21 Q. When was the TSDB's inclusion standards
- 22 first established? I am going to rephrase that

4

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1 question. When did the inclusion standards of the 1 addition

2 TSDB first come into being?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

4 Objection. Beyond the scope of the protective

5 order. You can answer to the extent that you can.

THE WITNESS: I don't know precisely when

7 the first time the definition was written down going

8 back to my previous answers about when the Watch

9 Listing Guidance was first promulgated. But I don't

10 believe that there was ever a different standard

11 used. So whenever the TSDB actually started

12 operating, that would have been the time the

13 reasonable suspicion standard began to be used.

14 BY MR. ABBAS:

15 Q. And it has always been the same?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection.

17 Mischaracterizes prior testimony.

18 BY MR. ABBAS:

19 Q. I am sorry. Let me withdraw that

20 question. The TSDB inclusion standard has always

21 been the same, correct?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection.

62

1 Mischaracterizes prior testimony.

THE WITNESS: To the best of my

3 knowledge, the overall standard has been the same.

4 BY MR. ABBAS:

5 Q. And what do you mean by -- the overall is

a little squishy. The TSDB inclusion standard has

7 always been the same, correct?

8 A. The reasonable suspicion standard has 9 always been, to my knowledge, the same.

10 Q. Is there another TSDB inclusion standard?

11 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

12 Objection. Potential --

13 BY MR. ABBAS:

14 Q. And I am sorry. Let me withdraw that 15 question. Is there another TSDB inclusion standard 16 other than the reasonable suspicion standard that

17 you mentioned?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

19 Objection. Potentially calls for law enforcement or

20 state secrets-privileged information. You can

21 answer to the extent that you can.

22 THE WITNESS: So there are certainly

1 additional standards for outside of the KST

2 standard. For instance, the criteria for no fly and

16 (61 to 64)

63

64

3 selectee subcompoents of the TSDB.

BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Can you be on the selectee list and not

6 on -- I am sorry. Can you be on the selectee list

7 and not on the Terror Screening Database? Let me

8 start again. Can a person be on a selectee list but

9 not in the Terror Screening Database?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Can a person be on the No-Fly List but

12 not on the Terror Screening Database?

13 A. No.

14 Q. So everyone on a selectee list and the

15 No-Fly List is also in the Terror Screening

16 Database, correct?

17 A. That is correct.

18 Q. Can a person be included on the terror --

19 I am sorry. Has the -- can a person be included in

20 the Terror Screening Database and not satisfy TSDB's

21 inclusion standard?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. I am going to

1 object on the ground of vagueness. Also,

2 potentially calls for law enforcement sensitive

3 information and potentially state secrets. You can

4 answer to the extent that you can.

THE WITNESS: Can you restate the precise

6 question?

7 MR. ABBAS: Can you read back the

8 question?

9 (The read was read.)

10 MS. KONKOLY: Same objection.

11 THE WITNESS: What do you mean by the

12 TSDB inclusion standard? Sorry.

13 BY MR. ABBAS:

14 Q. You testified that the TSDB inclusion 15 standard is a reasonable suspicion standard,

16 correct?

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. We will -- I will ask you some more

19 questions about the consent of that reasonable

20 suspicion standard. But right now I just want to

20 suspicion standard. But right now I just want to 21 know can a person be in the terror screening data --

22 I am sorry. Can TSC include a person in the Terror

4

68

Conducted on March 1, 2018

- 1 Screening Database that does not satisfy the TSDB
- 2 inclusion standard?
- 3 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 4 Objection. Potentially calls for law enforcement or
- 5 state secrets information. But you can answer to
- 6 the extent that you can.
- 7 THE WITNESS: There are limited purposes
- 8 for which individuals who do not meet the reasonable
- 9 suspicion standard can be included in the Terror
- 10 Screening Database in order to facilitate screening
- 11 processes specifically for the Department of
- 12 Homeland Security and Department of State.
- 13 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 14 Q. So the Terror Screening Center does not 15 apply the TSDB inclusion standards to every person 16 that is in the TSDB?
- 17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. Calls 18 for -- objection. Vague.
- 19 THE WITNESS: I would clarify that you 20 keep use the word TSDB inclusion standard. That's
- 21 not a word I have used. I would say that is the
- 22 reasonable suspicion standard that's applied to
- 1 known or suspected terrorists.
- BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. So we are going to argue -- not argue. I
- 4 am going to ask you questions about the content of
- 5 the reasonable suspicion standard. And I am using
- 6 the inclusion standard, because I don't think it is
- 7 a reasonable suspicion standard. But is the
- 8 standard that TSC applies to determine whether
- 9 someone is included in the TSDB, you refer to that
- 10 as the reasonable suspicion standard, correct?
- 11 A. That is correct.
- 12 Q. Okay. I refer to that as the inclusion 13 standard.
- 14 A. Okay. I am just saying that my concern 15 about that is precision is important here.
- 16 Q. Of course.
- 17 A. It is going to be confusing going
 18 forward. And we may have to keep clarifying this
 19 because this is complex stuff. So we have got to be
 20 precise.
- 21 Q. And I appreciate you working together 22 with me as we are trying to clarify the language. I

- 1 have not worked at the TSC, so I don't know your
- 2 language.

A. I understand.

- Q. Does the TSC -- let me try asking the
- 5 question a different way. Does the TSC apply the
- 6 same standard to every person in the Terror
- 7 Screening Database?
 - MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 9 Objection. Calls for information that's potentially
- 10 -- a full answer may call for information protected
- 11 by the law enforcement or state secrets privilege.
- 12 But you can answer to the extent that you can.
- 13 THE WITNESS: I believe, as I just 14 testified, the answer to that is no.
- 15 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 16 Q. Why doesn't the Terror Screening Center 17 apply the same standards to every person in the 18 Terror Screening Center? I am sorry. Let me start 19 that again. Why doesn't the Terror Screening Center 20 apply the same standard to each person in the Terror 21 Screening Database?
- 22 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 1 Objection. Calls for information potentially
- 2 protected by the law enforcement or state secrets
- 3 privilege. You can answer to the extent that you
- 4 can.

- 5 THE WITNESS: Because we were directed by
- 6 the Watch Listing Advisory Council in certain
- 7 instances for certain purposes to apply a different
- 8 standard.
- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 10 Q. When did the Watch Listing Advisory
- 11 Council tell the Terror Screening Center to
- 12 establish exceptions to what you are calling the
- 13 reasonable suspicion standard of the TSDB?
- 4 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 15 Objection. Potentially calls for law enforcement
- 16 sensitive information. You can answer to the extent
- 17 that you can answer. And SSI.
- 18 THE WITNESS: I think I can only give a 19 general answer to that to say that was after 2009.
- 20 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 21 Q. Okay. Are the exceptions to the TSDB
- 22 inclusion standards memorialized in the document?

18 (69 to 72) Conducted on March 1, 2018 71 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 1 there is two exceptions or 40 exceptions. You are asserting the state secrets privilege and the law 2 Objection. Potentially calls for information within 3 the law enforcement or state secrets privileges. enforcement privilege over the number of exceptions 4 You can answer to the extent that you can. to the TSDB inclusion standards? THE WITNESS: I think they would be MS. KONKOLY: My objection is on the 5 memorialized in various documents. 6 record. MR. ABBAS: I am clarifying. Are you BY MR. ABBAS: 8 Q. What documents memorialized the various 8 objecting? Are you asserting the state secrets 9 exceptions to the TSDB's inclusion standard? privilege and the law enforcement privilege over the 10 number of exceptions to the TSDB inclusion standard? 10 MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object on the MS. KONKOLY: My objection is on the 11 basis of law enforcement privilege and potentially 12 state secrets. I am going to instruct the witness 12 record. And yes, I am. 13 not to answer that question. 13 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. Could the president order the Terror MR. ABBAS: I am just asking for the 14 15 titles of the documents. Are you asserting the --15 Screening Center to place a person in the TSDB who 16 did not satisfy the TSDB inclusion standard? 16 what privileges are you asserting over the titles of 17 the document that memorialized the exceptions to the 17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a 18 legal conclusion. Objection. Vague. Objection. 18 TSDB inclusion standards? 19 Calls for speculation. Objection. Potentially law MS. KONKOLY: Law enforcement, 20 enforcement or state secrets. But you can answer if 20 potentially state secrets. I am instructing him not 21 to answer. 21 you can. MR. ABBAS: Over the names of the 22 THE WITNESS: I think, subject to the 22 70 72 1 documents? 1 Constitution and laws of the United States, the MS. KONKOLY: My objection is on the president ultimately is a part of the Executive 3 record. Branch who can give orders to the TSC, which could include what you are describing. 4 BY MR. ABBAS: BY MR. ABBAS: 5 Q. Is the watch listing -- does the Watch 5 Listing Guidance articulate the exceptions to the O. Is the TSDB inclusion standard -- never 6 TSDB inclusion standards? mind. Are there more than five exceptions to the MS. KONKOLY: Objection. I am going to TSDB inclusion standards? 9 object on the basis of law enforcement privilege, 9 MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object on the 10 potentially state secrets. And I am going to 10 basis of the law enforcement privilege, potentially 11 instruct the witness not to answer that question. 11 the state secrets privilege. And I am going to 12 instruct the witness not to answer that question. 12 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. How many exceptions are there to the TSDB 13 BY MR. ABBAS: 13 14 inclusion standard? Q. Are there more than 10 exceptions to the 14 15 MS. KONKOLY: I am going to again object 15 TSDB inclusion standards? 16 on the basis of the law enforcement privilege, 16 MS. KONKOLY: I am going to again object 17 potentially the state secrets privilege. And I am 17 on the basis of the law enforcement privilege,

19 not to answer.

Q. The Watch Listing Advisory Council 21 22 created exceptions to the TSDB inclusion standards

18 potentially state secrets, and instruct the witness

BY MR. ABBAS:

20

18 going to, again, instruct the witness not to answer

21 the privilege over how many -- he said that there

22 are various exceptions. I want to know whether

MR. ABBAS: How many -- you are asserting

19 that question.

Conducted on March 1, 2018

73

1 in 2009, correct? MS. KONKOLY: Objection.

3 Mischaracterizes prior testimony. Objection.

4 Vague.

THE WITNESS: I am just testifying that

it was after 2009 -- during or after 2009. BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. So you are not sure as to the year. But 9 it was at least after 2009 that the exceptions were 10 created?

A. That's correct. 11

12 Q. Prior to 2009, were there any exceptions

13 to the TSDB inclusion standard?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

15 Objection. Scope of the protective order. You can 16 answer to the extent that you know.

17 THE WITNESS: I don't believe so.

18 BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Why did the Terror Screening Center 19 20 create exceptions -- I am sorry. Your testimony is 21 that the Watch Listing Advisory Council created the

22 exceptions to the TSDB inclusion standards, correct?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

THE WITNESS: I mean, just given the word

created, but effectively agree that there would be exceptions.

BY MR. ABBAS: 5

Q. What was the rationale of the Watch

7 Listing -- I'm sorry. What was the rationale of the

8 Watch Listing Advisory Council when it created

9 exceptions to the TSDB inclusion standard?

10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. That calls for

11 information protected by the law enforcement

12 privilege, potentially state secrets privilege. I

13 am instructing the witness not to answer.

14 BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. On how many occasions has the Watch 15 16 Listing Advisory Council created exceptions to the 17 TSDB inclusion standard?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 19 information protected by the law enforcement 20 privilege, potentially the state secrets privilege.

21 I am instructing the witness not to answer.

22 MR. ABBAS: The number of times that the 1 Watch Listing Advisory Council has issued new

2 exceptions to the TSDB inclusion standard, you are

19 (73 to 76)

75

3 asserting the law enforcement privilege and the

4 state secrets privilege over the number of times

that the TSDB inclusion standards have had

exceptions made to them?

MS. KONKOLY: My objection is on the 8 record and yes.

9 BY MR. ABBAS:

10 Q. Has the -- I am sorry. Has the Watch

11 Listing Advisory Council issued -- I am sorry. Has

12 the Watch Listing Advisory Council created

13 exceptions to the TSDB inclusion standards on

14 multiple occasions?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 15 16 information within the law enforcement privilege,

17 potentially the state secrets privilege. And I am 18 going to instruct him not to answer that question.

MR. ABBAS: Whether or not the Watch

20 Listing Advisory Council has done so on multiple

21 occasions? That's potentially a state secret if 22 they have done it twice or three or more than once?

1 You have told me that they have done it once. Why

can't Mr. Groh tell me if it has happened more than

once? What's the --

MS. KONKOLY: My objection is on the

5 record. The instruction stands. You are welcome to

ask your next question.

BY MR. ABBAS:

8 Q. Are there persons listed in the Terror

Screening Database for whom the TSC lacks reasonable

10 suspicion that they are a known or suspected

11 terrorist?

12 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potentially

13 calls for law enforcement, potentially state

14 secrets. You can answer that if you can.

15 THE WITNESS: I would say that, yes, with

16 a caveat that those individuals are in there for

17 limited purposes. And so being in the database is

18 not the same as being available to all potential

19 screeners.

20 BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. What are the limited purposes that TSC --21

22 I am sorry. Let me start all over. What are the

Conducted on March 1, 2018 1 limited purposes for which the TSC will allow an 1 aware of certain documents. I assume there are 2 individual to be included in the TSDB who does not other documents. 3 satisfy the TSDB inclusion standard? MR. ABBAS: Arizona. 4 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and 4 BY MR. ABBAS: 5 answered. Objection. Calls for information O. What documents memorialized what 6 protected by the law enforcement privilege, screening DHS does via these TSDB inclusion standard 7 potentially the state secrets privilege. You can exceptions? 8 answer that if you can. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for THE WITNESS: So as I previously stated, 9 information protected by the law enforcement 10 it is for screening conducted by the Department of 10 privilege, potentially state secrets privilege. On 11 Homeland Security and by the Department of State. 11 that basis, I am going to instruct the witness not BY MR. ABBAS: 12 to answer. However, I will also add the objection 12 13 that the answer would call for information within 13 Q. What screening does the Department of 14 Homeland Security and the Department of State do via 14 the purview of other agencies in any event. 15 these TSDB inclusion standard exceptions? MR. ABBAS: Can you read back the 16 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. An answer to 16 question. I forgot it already. I apologize. 17 that would call for information protected by the law 17 (The record was read.) 18 enforcement privilege and potentially the state MS. KONKOLY: I am asserting the same 19 secrets privilege. I am instructing the witness not 19 privilege and issuing the same instruction not to 20 answer that question. 20 to answer. BY MR. ABBAS: MR. ABBAS: You are asserting the law 21 21 22 So you can tell me which agency, but you 22 enforcement privilege and state secrets privilege 78 1 can't tell me what the agency does with the over the name of the documents that memorialized the 2 information. And just tell me what TSC's knowledge agreement. I am sorry. Memorialized how DHS 3 is of what those two agencies do with the exceptions utilizes the TSDB inclusion standard exceptions. 4 to the TSB inclusion standard? MS. KONKOLY: Yes, Gadeir. My objection MS. KONKOLY: I will add the objection is on the record. 6 that that answer would call for information within 6 BY MR. ABBAS: 7 the purview of other agencies. And Dr. Groh could Q. How many documents memorialized how 8 not bind -- Mr. Groh could not bind them. But I am 8 DHS -- I'm sorry. How many documents memorialized

9 instructing the witness not to answer on the basis 10 of privileges I have asserted here, which are on the

11 record.

12 BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Is there a document that memorializes how 14 DHS utilizes this TSDB inclusion standard exception 15 for their screening purposes?

MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object to 16 17 scope potentially but also the fact that that answer 18 would call for information within the purview of 19 another agency. And so, therefore, Mr. Groh can't 20 bind TSA. You can answer, however, as to your 21 understanding.

22 THE WITNESS: Yes. There are -- I am

20 (77 to 80)

9 how DHS utilizes the TSDB inclusion standard

10 exceptions for their screening?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection on the basis of 12 the law enforcement privilege. Potentially state 13 secrets. Also, it would call for information within

14 the purview of another agency. I am instructing the 15 witness not to answer.

16 MR. ABBAS: Over the number of documents?

MS. KONKOLY: Gadeir, my objection is on 17 18 the record.

MR. ABBAS: I am just clarifying. I am 19 20 just making sure of that.

MS. KONKOLY: I understood the question, 22 and my objection is on the record.

84

21 (81 to 84)

- MR. ABBAS: So you have asserted the law 2 enforcement privilege and the state secrets
- 3 privilege over the names of the documents and the
- 4 number of documents that memorialize the ways that
- 5 DHS utilizes the TSDB inclusion standard exceptions
- 6 for their screeening.
- MS. KONKOLY: Yes, Gadeir. I understood
- 8 your question. And I stated my objection and
- 9 instruction for the record.
- 10 MR. ABBAS: Thank you.
- 11 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 12 Q. What are the purposes of the Terror
- 13 Screening Database?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 15 Objection. Potentially calls for information within
- 16 the law enforcement or the state secrets,
- 17 potentially SSI. But you can answer that to the 18 extent that you can.
- 19
- THE WITNESS: The TSDB's purpose is to
- 20 consolidate what once were disparate watch-listed --
- 21 disparate watch lists to provide a common operating
- 22 picture for the intelligence community screeners and
- 1 the law enforcement community in order to better 2 prevent terrorism.
- 3 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Is the purpose of the Terror Screening
- 5 Database to prevent terrorism?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 6
- 7 Objection. Potentially calls for law enforcement
- sensitive information. You can answer if you can.
- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. I am sorry. I am going to withdraw that
- 11 question. I forgot to ask a few questions regarding 12 the inclusion standards. So I apologize for jumping
- 13 around. I just missed something. Does the TSC
- 14 allow the FBI to utilize the TSDB to coerce
- 15 individuals into becoming informants?
- 16 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Misleading.
- 17 Objection. Vague. Objection. Calls for law
- 18 enforcement and potentially state secrets privileged
- 19 information. You can answer to the extent that you 20 can.
- 21 THE WITNESS: No.
- 22 MR. ABBAS:

- Q. Does -- is it TSC's understanding that
- the FBI utilizes the TSDB for investigative
- purposes?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as it 4
- 5 calls for an answer that goes to information owned
- 6 by another agency. But you can answer as to your 7 understanding.
- THE WITNESS: Yes, we support FBI 9 investigations.
- 10 Q. Does the TSDB support FBI investigations 11 by helping the FBI recruit informants?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Misleading. 13 Objection. Potentially law enforcement, potentially 14 state secrets. You can answer to the extent that
- 15 you can.
- THE WITNESS: We support investigations. 16 17 From time to time investigations lead to the
- 18 recruitment of informants. But I wouldn't say there
- 19 is any direct relationship between recruit
- 20 informants and the TSDB.
- 21 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 22 Q. Does TSC have any knowledge that the FBI

1 utilizes the TSDB to recruit informants?

- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potentially law
- enforcement or state secrets. Objection. Vague.
- Objection. Potentially calls for information within
- the purview of another agency. You can answer to
- 6 the extent that you can.
- THE WITNESS: As I previously stated, we
- 8 support investigations generally. The FBI does
- 9 recruit informants, but I don't think it is fair to
- 10 draw kind of a direct relationship between the
- 11 presence of TSDB and being used to coerce people to
- 12 becoming informants.
- 13 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Is the recruitment of informants an 15 appropriate use of the TSDB in the view of Terror
- 16 Screening Center?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 18 Objection. Potentially law enforcement privileged.
- 19 Potentially goes to information in the purview of
- 20 another agency. You can answer to the extent that 21 you can.
- 22 THE WITNESS: My opinion -- inasmuch as

2

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1 there is an investigation of an individual, I think

2 that is appropriate. But to fully answer your

- 3 question, that would assume a predicated
- 4 investigation pursuant to -- if we are talking about
- 5 the FBI, pursuant to the guidelines that the FBI
- 6 follows. But is not, per se, simply to recruit
- 7 someone who is not subject to a predicated
- 8 investigation.
- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 10 Q. Are there individuals on the Terror
- 11 Screening Database that are informants for the FBI?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for
- 13 information protected by the law enforcement
- 14 privilege, potentially the state secrets. I am
- 15 going to instruct not to answer that one.
- 16 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 17 Q. Does the TSDB contain notations if 18 someone is an informant of the FBI?
- 19 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for law 20 enforcement sensitive and potentially state secrets.
- 21 I am instructing him not to answer that question.
- 22 BY MR. ABBAS:
 - Q. Is -- does the FBI utilize -- I am sorry.
- 2 In TSC's understanding, does the FBI utilize the
- 3 TSDB to track persons in the FBI?
- 4 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for
- 5 information potentially within law enforcement,
- 6 state secrets privileges. Also within the purview
- 7 of another agency. You can answer to the extent
- 8 that you can.
- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 10 Q. Let me withdraw that question. I just
- 11 asked it poorly. Does the TSC know whether the FBI
- 12 utilizes the TSDB to track the movement of persons
- 13 listed in the FBI?
- 14 MS. KONKOLY: Same objections.
- 15 Potentially law enforcement sensitive, potentially
- 16 state secrets. Vague and within the purview of
- 17 another agency. But you can answer as to your
- 18 understanding.
- THE WITNESS: I think generally, the FBI
- 20 may use -- we would -- someone that the FBI has
- 21 interest or equities with respect to, we would
- 22 report what we would call encounters generally to

- 1 the FBI.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
- 3 Q. The Terror Screening Center knows that
- the FBI utilizes the TSDB to monitor the movement of

22 (85 to 88)

87

- 5 persons listed in the FBI, correct?
- 6 MS. KONKOLY: Objection.
- 7 Mischaracterizes prior testimony. Objection.
- 8 Potentially law enforcement information within the
- 9 purview of another agency. You can answer to the 10 extent that you can.
- THE WITNESS: I think the word monitor is
- 12 -- I wouldn't use that particular word. We report
- 13 encounters when we become aware of them.
- 14 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 15 Q. Why do you report -- why does TSC report
- 16 encounters with TSDB listees to the FBI?
- 17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potentially
- 18 calls for law enforcement sensitive information.
- 19 You can answer to the extent that you can.
- THE WITNESS: To maintain that common
- 21 operating picture, I formally referred to, as it was
- 22 one of the key lessons to be found in the 9/11
- 86
- 1 Commission Report.
 - 2 BY MR. ABBAS:
 - Q. Who told the Terror Screening Center to
 - 4 report encounters with TSDB listees to the FBI?
 - MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
 - 6 Objection. Potentially law enforcement sensitive.
 - 7 You can answer to the extent that you can.
 - 8 THE WITNESS: I am going to assume that
 - 9 that happened very early on in the creation of that.
 - 10 You know, that would be something governed by the
 - 11 Watch Listing Advisory Council. It has long and/or
 - 12 always been the case that that's been true.
 - 13 BY MR. ABBAS:
 - 14 Q. What is TSC's understanding of what the
 - 15 FBI generally does with TSDB listee encounter
 - 16 information that it receives from the Terror
 - 17 Screening Center?
 - MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potentially
 - 19 calls for law enforcement sensitive information.
 - 20 Also, information within the purview of another
 - 21 agency to which Mr. Groh cannot bind any other
 - 22 agency. But you can answer as to your understanding

Conducted on March 1, 2018

without waiving any privileges.

THE WITNESS: We report that information

3 to the -- to the investigator for whatever matter 4 that may relate to. And I believe that that is then

5 recorded in the investigative case file.

6 BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Does the dissemination of DHS listee 8 encounter information to the FBI happen

9 automatically? 10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

11 Objection. Potentially law enforcement --

12 BY MR. ABBAS:

13 Q. Can I back up that question? You used 14 the word encounter?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. What is TSC's definition of an encounter?

17 A. So an encounter is -- we use the term
18 encounter to describe any time one of our screening
19 partners comes into contact physically or
20 administratively with somebody that is watch-listed
21 in the TSDB.

Q. Does the TSC try to maximum the number of

1 encounters of TSDB listees?

2 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Misleading. 3 Objection, vague.

THE WITNESS: When you say -- I don't understand what you mean by maximize the number.

6 BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. What's the utility of -- well, give me an 8 example of a TSDB listee encounter?

9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potentially 10 calls for law enforcement sensitive or state secrets 11 privilege information. You can answer that if you 12 can without waiving the privilege.

13 THE WITNESS: It could be a -- it could 14 be a traffic stop by a local law enforcement 15 officer. It could be something with respect to 16 border screening. It could be something with 17 respect to a domestic fight.

18 BY MR. ABBAS:

19 Q. Why is that -- why is whether a TSDB 20 listee -- let me start all over. Why is a local 21 police officer's traffic-related encounter with a 22 TSDB listee useful information?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague, calls

23 (89 to 92)

91

2 for speculation, potentially law enforcement

3 sensitive. You can answer to the extent that you 4 can.

5 THE WITNESS: So, again, our processes

6 were envisioned as a result of 9/11. And so as an

7 example, I will give you that there were individuals

8 known to the United States intelligence community

9 who were being sought in relation to various

10 investigations prior to 9/11 who were present in the

11 United States. They were subsequently encountered

12 by local law enforcement. But that information did

13 not get back to either the intelligence community or

14 the FBI. And, thus, opportunities to have

15 intervened and prevented the events of 9/11 were 16 missed.

17 BY MR. ABBAS:

18 Q. Does the Terror Screening Center believe 19 that increasing the number of tracked encounters 20 with TSDB listees furthers the purposes of the 21 Terror Screening Database?

22 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

92 1 Objection. Misleading. Objection law enforcement

2 sensitive. You can answer to the extent that you

3 can.

90

MR. ABBAS: I mean, if you disagree -- I mean, if he says that he doesn't agree with that, he

should not agree with that. I don't understand --

7 MS. KONKOLY: My objections are stated 8 for the record. They stand. You can answer to the

extent that you can.

10 THE WITNESS: I think if -- for people 11 that are appropriately watch-listed in the record, 12 that additional -- additional encounters through 13 additional appropriate screening mechanisms are 14 generally helpful.

15 BY MR. ABBAS:

16 Q. Why?

17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 18 speculation, potentially law enforcement sensitive 19 information. You can answer to the extent that you 20 can.

21 THE WITNESS: Because each encounter is 22 an opportunity to gather and match intelligence in

6

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1 order to enable identification and disruption of

terrorist activities.

3

BY MR. ABBAS:

- Q. Does the TSDB have purposes unrelated to 5 the security of commercial aviation?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 7 Objection. Potentially law enforcement sensitive
- 8 information. But you can answer to the extent that 9 you can.
- 10 THE WITNESS: I think that the TSDB is
- 11 generally there to prevent terrorist attacks in
- 12 general, not limited to aviation security.
- 13 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Is every encounter with a TSDB listee 14 15 added to the TSDB itself?

16 A. The --

- 17 MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object on the 18 basis of potential law enforcement. But you can 19 answer to the extent that you can.
- 20 THE WITNESS: We maintain encounter
- 21 information in a separate database.
- BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. So you have -- so the Terror Screening
- Center has encounter information with all TSDB
- 3 listees, correct?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potentially law
- enforcement. You can answer to the extent that you 5
- 6 can.
- THE WITNESS: We -- we have information
- 8 on all encounters. We certainly don't have
- 9 encounters with every person in the TSDB.
- 10 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Sure. Does TSC monitor how TSDB listees 11
- 12 are encountered?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 14 Objection. Potentially law enforcement privilege,
- 15 but you can answer.
- THE WITNESS: Do you mean the method in
- 17 which or who the encounter came from?
- BY MR. ABBAS: 18
- Q. Just as an executive. As an executive of 20 a big organization, does the executive leadership of
- 21 the Terror Screening Center pay attention to
- 22 encounter patterns with TSDB listees?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potential law

24 (93 to 96)

96

- enforcement and vague. But you can answer to the
- extent that you can.
- 4 THE WITNESS: Generally, yes.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
 - Q. Does the TSC leadership analyze the
- number of encounter with TSDB listees?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potentially law
- 9 enforcement. You can answer to the extent that you 10 can.
- 11 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 12 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Does TSC view -- let me start again. 13
- 14 Does TSC attempt to disseminate the TSDB in a way
- 15 that increases the number of potential encounters
- 16 with TSDB listees?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 18 Objection. Potential law enforcements. But you can 19 answer to the extent you can.
- 20 THE WITNESS: Not as a first order of
- 21 analysis. But we look at the screening purposes.
- 22 And the appropriate screening purposes are the
- 1 beginning of the analysis. But I would certainly
- 2 want to generally, although there are requirements
- 3 being met, want to ensure that the way we
- 4 disseminate our information is helpful to the
- 5 screening partner, because if we encounter the
- 6 actual information, we certainly want to -- we
- 7 certainly want to make sure that we detect that
- 8 encounter.

- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. So the TSC -- so the Terror Screening
- 11 Center views encounters with TSDB listees as a
- 12 source of valuable intelligence information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. 13
- 14 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Let me start all over. That was
- 16 terrible. All right. So the Terror Screening
- 17 Center believes that encounters with TSDB listees
- 18 have counter-intelligence value?
- MS. KONKOLY: I will object as vague and 19
- 20 mischaracterizes information potentially law --
- 21 prior testimony -- mischaracterized prior testimony.
- 22 Potentially implicates the law enforcement

25 (97 to 100)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1 privilege. You can answer that to the extent that 1 question, we can't go agency by agency because that would provide a comprehensive answer to that vou can. THE WITNESS: I certainly -- well, I question -- to the previous question. But you can 4 would certainly not use the word answer this one to the extent that you believe you 5 counter-intelligence, which as we give -- maybe this 5 6 is us using terms differently, I suspect. I would THE WITNESS: Yes. 7 say counter-terrorism value, yes. Generally, I BY MR. ABBAS: 8 agree that positive --Q. Does the -- does CBP -- I am sorry. Q. But can I just --9 Does -- does TSC receive information from CBP when 10 A. Encounters --10 CBP encounters a TSDB listee? MS. KONKOLY: I am going to make largely 11 MS. KONKOLY: Let him finish. 12 TE WITNESS: -- with people in the TSDB 12 the same objections. Law enforcement, potential 13 has intelligence or law enforcement value. 13 state secrets. And for the reason I instructed the 14 witness not to answer the question posed in whole, 14 BY MR. ABBAS: 15 we can't proceed to go too far down the 15 Q. Yeah, I see your clarification. I think 16 you are right. Thank you for translating for me. 16 agency-by-agency path, because that would provide an 17 So let me just kind of for clarity sake rephrase 17 answer to the question I instructed the witness not 18 to answer. With that said, you can answer this one 18 with counter-terrorism rather than 19 to the extent that you believe you can. 19 counter-intelligence. The TSC's testimony today is that it 20 20 THE WITNESS: Yes. 21 views encounters with TSDB listees as having 21 BY MR. ABBAS: 22 counter-terrorism value? 22 Does USCI -- I'm sorry. Does TSC receive 98 100 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague, information from USCIS when USCIS encounters a TSDB potential law enforcement. You can answer. listee? 3 THE WITNESS: Yes. That's what I just MS. KONKOLY: I am going to again object 3 4 said. on the basis of the law enforcement privilege and, 5 BY MR. ABBAS: again, note for the reasons I instructed the witness Q. What are all the Federal Government 6 not to answer the previous question asking for all entities that can have encounters with TSDB listees? agencies. I really can't go much further down this MS. KONKOLY: Objection. A comprehensive 8 line. So I need to cut off this line of questioning 9 answer to that would call for information protected for the same reason. With that said, you can answer 10 by the law enforcement privilege and potentially the 10 this question to the extent that you can. 11 state secrets privilege. I am going to instruct the 11 THE WITNESS: Yes. 12 witness not to answer that question. 12 BY MR. ABBAS: BY MR. ABBAS: 13 Q. Does TSC receive information from the Q. Does TSC receive encounter reports from 14 Department of State when the Department of State 15 the TSA? I am sorry. Let me back up. Does the 15 encounters a TSDB listee? 16 Terror Screening Center receive information from TSA 16 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 17 when TSA encounters a TSDB listee? 17 information potentially protected by the law MS. KONKOLY: Objection. SSI. Objection 18 enforcement privilege. For the same reasons as I 19 law enforcement. Objection. Calls for information 19 stated before, we cannot provide to answer this 20 potentially within the purview of a different 20 question for every single agency you might want to 21 agency. Also, I am going to note that for reasons I 21 ask it for, because that would provide an answer to

22 the question that I have instructed the witness not

22 instruct the witness not to answer the previous

Conducted on March 1, 2018

26 (101 to 104)

103 to answer. So you can answer this one to the extent BY MR. ABBAS: that you believe that you can. Q. What do you mean by outside of the 3 THE WITNESS: Yes. agencies we have already discussed? What do you 4 BY MR. ABBAS: mean? Q. Does DH -- I am sorry. Does TSC receive MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potentially law information from DHS when DHS encounters a TSDB enforcement. You can answer to the extent that you listee? can elaborate without waiving a privilege. THE WITNESS: I go back to my previous 8 MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object to 9 that question as vague. I am also going to object 9 answer about exceptions. It is for limited 10 on law enforcement privilege. I am going to object 10 screening uses by the Department of Homeland 11 for the same reason that this constellation of 11 Security and the Department of State, both of whom 12 questions will ultimately provide an answer to the 12 we had just discussed. You had asked me if we 13 question I have instructed the witness not to 13 received encounters. There are no other agencies 14 answer. With that said, you can answer this one to 14 for which we receive encounters to people that are 15 an exception to the reasonable suspicion standard. 15 the extent that you can. 16 THE WITNESS: I think inasmuch CBP and 16 BY MR. ABBAS: 17 TSA are both part of DHS, I have answered the 17 Q. So the way that DHS and Department of 18 question. Yes. 18 State report encounter information to TSC is 19 BY MR. ABBAS: 19 different than the way that the TSA and FBI and 20 O. Does TSC receive information from the FBI 20 USCIS report encounter information to TSC? 21 when the FBI encounters a TSDB listee? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague, MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for law 22 potential law enforcement. You can answer. 102 104 1 enforcement sensitive information, particularly if THE WITNESS: I wouldn't say the way they 2 this constellation of questions were taken together report information is different. What I would say 3 and proceeds further down the line. That said, you is the way that we export the TSDB is different. 4 can answer this question to the extent that you BY MR. ABBAS: believe vou can. Q. Oh, so -- so there are some parts of the TSDB that exist via these TSDB inclusion standard 6 THE WITNESS: Yes. BY MR. ABBAS: exceptions, correct? Q. Does TSC receive encounter information MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 9 from other Federal Government agencies about 9 Objection. Potential law enforcement. But you can 10 encounters with TSDB listees irrespective of whether 10 answer. 11 or not the TSDB inclusion standard has been applied 11 THE WITNESS: Yes. 12 to that individual? 12 BY MR. ABBAS: MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. Q. But the information that TSC has that's 13 14 Objection. Calls for speculation. Objection. 14 created via these TSDB inclusion standard exceptions 15 Calls for potentially law enforcement or state 15 is only disseminated to DHS and DOS? 16 secrets privilege. You can answer that to the MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potential law 16 17 enforcement. You can answer if you can. 17 extent that you can. THE WITNESS: Outside of the agencies we 18 THE WITNESS: Yes. 19 19 have already discussed, no. BY MR. ABBAS: MR. ABBAS: I am sorry? Can you read Q. Does the Terror Screening Center receive 21 back the question and his answer? 21 encounter information from state and local 22 (The record was read.) 22 authorities?

27 (105 to 108)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

107 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potentially law 1 we got away a little bit from the TSDB purposes. So 2 enforcement privilege, but you can answer to the 2 I am going to go back to that. I might cover some extent that you can. ground that we already covered. But that's just 4 THE WITNESS: Yes. 4 because I can't remember exactly where we are. 5 BY MR. ABBAS: A. I am yours for another six or -- five or Q. Does the Terror Screening Center receive 6 six hours. 6 encounter information from non-government entities? Q. I will take every minute. And you can MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. take a break whenever you would like? 9 Potentially law enforcement. You can answer to the A. I am good. 9 10 extent that you can. 10 Q. But one more encounter-related question. 11 THE WITNESS: No. 11 Can -- can the FBI -- does the FBI have access to 12 BY MR. ABBAS: 12 encounter information that regards TSDB listees. I Q. Does the Terror Screening Center receive 13 am sorry. Let me start all over. Do -- does the 13 14 encounter information from foreign governments? 14 Terror Screening Center provide encounter MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 15 information to agencies that did not originate the 16 Objection. Calls for law enforcement sensitive 16 encounter information? 17 information and potentially the state secrets. But 17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 18 you can answer to the extent that you can. 18 Objection. Potentially law enforcement. You can 19 answer if you can without waiving a privilege. 19 THE WITNESS: Yes. 20 THE WITNESS: One of the -- one of the 20 BY MR. ABBAS: 21 basic premises of our dissemination of encounter 21 Q. How many countries provide the Terror 22 Screening Center with encounter information? 22 information is to generally inform what we call the 108 106 MS. KONKOLY: Huh? 1 nominator -- the originator of that information. It 2 BY MR. ABBAS: is not necessarily the only consideration. Q. I'm sorry. Let me rephrase the question. 3 BY MR. ABBAS: 4 How many foreign governments provide the Terror Q. Does the CBP -- does CBP receive Screening Center with encounter information encounter information? I am sorry. Does TSC 6 regarding TSDB listees? provide CBP with encounter information that TSA MS. KONKOLY: Objection. That question provided to TSC? 8 calls for information protected by the law MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 9 enforcement privilege, potentially the state 9 MR. ABBAS: That was well worded. 10 secrets. You can answer to the extent that you can 10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potentially 11 without waiving a privilege. 11 calls for information protected by the law THE WITNESS: We have agreements with 12 12 enforcement privilege, SSI -- potentially SSI, also 13 more than 60 foreign countries. They -- and I think 13 for information within the purview of another agency 14 that's all I can say. 14 as to which Mr. Groh cannot speak in a binding 15 BY MR. ABBAS: 15 capacity. But you can answer to the extent that you 16 Q. Some of those agreement are public, 16 can. THE WITNESS: Let me make sure I -- make 17 correct? 17 18 sure I understand this one. So you are saying if A. Yes, some of the agreements are either – 19 have been disclosed by the foreign government 19 TSA has an encounter, would I inform CBP that TSA

21

22

20 has had an encounter?

Q. Yes.

BY MR. ABBAS:

20 themselves. That's true.

21

Q. Why does the Terror Screening Center

22 disseminate -- not yet, not yet. Okay. So I know

28 (109 to 112)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

109 111 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potentially law MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. enforcement privilege. Objection. Vague. You can 2 BY MR. ABBAS: 3 O. Would TSA inform CBP that TSA has had an answer to the extent you can. encounter with a TSDB listee? THE WITNESS: Generally, if they request it or if we think it is relevant, we wouldn't MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. THE WITNESS: Possibly, not necessarily withhold that. And with our screening partners, if 6 7 they request encounter information, we will automatically. 8 generally provide it. But as a matter of daily BY MR. ABBAS: 9 practice, I have got to say that depends on the 9 Q. So would CBP have to request that 10 facts and circumstances. It could be because there 10 information? 11 were other obvious encounters that were related to MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 12 information protected by the law enforcement 12 this one and that might be something we would 13 privilege, SSI, outside of purview of the TSC. But 13 highlight or it may have been something that does 14 not appear to be related and we might not 14 you can answer to the extent that you believe you 15 necessarily highlight that. It would be -- it is 15 can. THE WITNESS: Each circumstance -- we 16 hard to say. 16 17 look at every encounter in detail, every what we 17 BY MR. ABBAS: 18 call positive encounter, which is where we believe 18 Q. I am just trying to understand. 19 A. Sure. 19 it is actually the individual that is listed in the 20 TSDB. Once we have made that determination, we look 20 Q. I don't understand. A TSDB listee gets 21 on a plane and flies from D.C. to Chicago. Does a 21 at the facts and circumstances of the individual 22 encounter. And then we will make appropriate 22 human being at TSC decide who receives a 110 112 1 notification decisions after that. It is possible 1 notification that the TSDB listee has flown from 2 we might. Again, I go back to what I said. It D.C. to Chicago? 3 wouldn't necessarily be automatic. 3 A. Yes. I'm sorry? Q. Are you making individualized decisions 4 MS. KONKOLY: Go ahead. about which encounter information to disseminate to THE WITNESS: Yeah. |5 6 which agencies? BY MR. ABBAS: 7 A. Absolutely. Q. Do recipients of TSDB encounter Q. So every time there is an encounter, TSC 8 information request encounter data by a person or 9 makes a decision about which agencies receive can they request it across a large group or a subset 10 information about that encounter? 10 of persons? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 12 Mischaracterized his prior testimony. Objection. 12 Objection. Potentially law enforcement. You can 13 Vague. Objection. Potentially law enforcement 13 answer to the extent that you can. THE WITNESS: I think they could do both. 14 sensitive. But you can answer to the extent you 15 I mean, certainly individuals -- and I can envision 15 can. 16 THE WITNESS: Generally yes, every time. 16 circumstances where they would for various reasons 17 BY MR. ABBAS: 17 want to know about broader groupings for Q. Okay. If CBP has an encounter with a 18 intelligence analysis or other purposes. So 19 TSDB listee, does -- I am sorry. Let me start all 19 generally, yes. 20 over. If CBP has an encounter with a TSDB listee, 20 BY MR. ABBAS: 21 does CBP receive information from TSC about prior 21 Q. Does TSC have agreements with other 22 encounters with other agencies? 22 Federal Government agencies regarding the

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1 dissemination of encounter information with TSDB

- 2 listees? I am going to say that question again. I
- 3 am going to try it again. Does TSC have agreements
- 4 or understandings with Federal Government agencies
- 5 that receive TSDB listee encounter information?
- 6 MS. KONKOLY: Is that the end of the 7 question?
- 8 MR. ABBAS: Yes.
- 9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 10 Objection potentially law enforcement. Objection.
- 11 Compound. You can answer to the extent that you 12 can.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Generally, yes. I would
- 14 say some of that is governed by via the Watch
- 15 Listing Advisory Council from a substantive
- 16 perspective. But then there is -- I would say there
- 17 are other technical agreements with, you know, how
- 18 that can happen.
- 19 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Are those technical agreements that you
- 21 are referring to memorialized in documents?
- 22 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 1 Objection. Potentially law enforcement. You can
- 2 answer to the extent that you can.
- THE WITNESS: Typically, those will be
- 4 memorialized in a memorandum of understanding with
- 5 whoever those partner agencies are.
- 6 MR. ABBAS: Arizona.
- 7 THE WITNESS: What happens if I say
- 8 Arizona?
- 9 MR. ABBAS: We go to lunch.
- There is five minutes left on the tape.
- 11 Why don't we stop now and take 10 minutes while he 12 switches tape.
- 13 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the
- 14 record. The time is 11:13 a.m.
- 15 (A recess was held.)
- 16 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Here begins disk
- 17 number two in the videotaped deposition of Timothy
- 18 Paul Groh. The time on the video monitor is
- 19 11:27 a.m. We have been on the record for 1 hour 51
- 20 minutes and 35 seconds. And we are back on the 21 record.
- MS. KONKOLY: And I was just noting in

- 1 the break that before we start, defendants have
- 2 consulted regarding a certain line of questioning as

29 (113 to 116)

115

116

- 3 to the members of the Watch Listing Advisory
- 4 Council. And we have determined that there is
- 5 certain information that we can clarify and disclose
- 6 on the public record. So Mr. Groh is prepared to do 7 that.
- 8 THE WITNESS: So you had asked me
- 9 previously who sits on the council. And so we are
- 10 prepared to advise that also on the council is
- 11 Department of Homeland Security. And the National
- 12 Counter-Terrorism Center is the co-chair of the
- 13 Watch Listing Advisory Council together with the 14 TSC.
- 15 Q. So the Watch Listing Advisory Council is 16 co-chaired by TSC and NCTC?
- 17 A. Correct.
- 18 Q. And DHS, TSC, and CBP are all members of 19 the Watch Listing Advisory Council?
- MS. KONKOLY: Asked and answered. That 21 would be in the record earlier as to who we were 22 able to disclose.

- 1 MR. ABBAS: I am not certain that's in
- 2 the record.
- THE WITNESS: So I would say DHS and, of
- 4 course, CBP, and TSA subcomponents of DHS.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
- 6 O. And the FBI is also a member of the Watch
- Listing Advisory Council?
- A. Yes.
- 9 Q. All of the defendants in this action are
- 10 members of the Watch Listing Advisory Council?
- 11 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a
- 12 legal conclusion.
- 13 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 14 Q. Oh, you don't know the defendants.
- 15 That's fine. That's fair.
- 16 A. I don't remember precisely.
- 17 Q. I withdraw the question. Yeah, that's
- 18 fine. So we are going to get back to TSDB purposes.
- 19 And I know -- I think I apologized right before the
- 20 break that I am probably going to cover some ground
- 21 that I have already covered. And that's just
- 22 because I have a bad memory.

30 (117 to 120)

Conducted on March 1, 2018 119 1 you can without waiving the privilege. What -- to what ends does TSC maintain --THE WITNESS: I believe I already said 2 I am sorry. To what ends does TSC create, maintain, and disseminate the TSDB? no, they don't all receive the same information. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 4 BY MR. ABBAS: O. To what extent does the varied information protected by the law enforcement privilege potentially. You can answer that to the dissemination of TSDB information establish what you have referred to as a common operating picture? extent that you can. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. THE WITNESS: I go back to the previous 9 answer. We maintain this in order to facilitate a 9 Objection. Potentially calling for law enforcement, 10 common operating picture amongst the intelligence 10 but you can about answer. THE WITNESS: I think the idea of a 11 screening and law enforcement communities in order 12 to detect and ultimately prevent terrorism. 12 common operating picture is still -- still limited 13 by appropriate legal and policy considerations and 13 BY MR. ABBAS: 14 practical considerations about how information can Q. What do you mean by common operating 15 be used for screening downstream from us. 15 procedure? I am sorry. What do you mean by common 16 operating picture? 16 BY MR. ABBAS: A. I mean that we are ensuring that all of 17 Q. Explain how the dissemination -- I am 18 sorry. Explain how TSC's dissemination of TSDB 18 these disparate parts of the government have 19 information establishes among Federal Government 19 information that enables their mission, and the 20 agencies a common operating picture? 20 information doesn't get stove-piped in one part of MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague, 21 the government or another. Q. Do all agencies that receive TSDB 22 compound, potentially law enforcement. But you can 118 120 1 information receive all information regarding 1 answer. THE WITNESS: Well, for instance, I go 2 encounters with TSDB listees? back to my previous example of the Central 3 MS. KONKOLY: Objection on the basis of 4 law enforcement privilege, potentially SSI. You can 4 Intelligence Agency having been aware of information answer that to the extent that you can. about individuals, such as Khalid Al-Mihdhar being THE WITNESS: So you asked do all 6 involved in Al-Qaeda plots. That information had 6 individual -- do all agencies that -not been shared with the FBI. And it certainly MR. ABBAS: Do you want the question read | 8 hadn't been shared with any local law enforcement 8 9 border screeners. And as a result, despite the fact 9 back. 10 THE WITNESS: Yeah, that would be 10 that the U.S. Government had a useful intelligence 11 holding, that information was neither actionable nor 11 helpful. 12 useful. 12 (The read was read.) MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. 13 BY MR. ABBAS: 13 Q. So the TSC sees as its role in the watch THE WITNESS: So no, all individuals that 14 15 -- or all agencies that receive the TSDB information 15 listing process the facilitating the dissemination 16 do not receive information on all encounters. 16 of information that maybe CIA has for local law 17 BY MR. ABBAS: 17 enforcement? Q. Do all agencies that receive TSDB A. To --18 18 19 information receive the same TSDB information? MS. KONKOLY: Go ahead. 19

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for

21 information protected by the law enforcement

22 privilege. You can answer that to the extent that

THE WITNESS: I would say -- I wouldn't

21 specify any particular agency. I would say

22 generally held by intelligence and law enforcement

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1 agencies.

2 BY MR. ABBAS:

- 3 Q. Including state and local law enforcement agencies, correct?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 6 Objection. Potentially law enforcement. You can answer if you can.
- BY MR. ABBAS: 8
- 9 Q. Your example was a dissemination of CIA 10 information via TSC to local law enforcement. I am 11 just asking you a question about the example that 12 you provided.
- MS. KONKOLY: Okay. Same objections. 13
- 14 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 15 MR. ABBAS: Just for clarity, I am going 16 to ask just that the question is repeated. I will 17 ask her to repeat the question just so we know what 18 you are saying yes to.
- 19 (The record was read.)
- 20 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 21 Q. Now I remember the question. Let me try 22 again.
 - 122
- A. Do them all again. 1
- Q. Yeah. What was the name of the person in
- the example that you used? What was that name?
- A. The 9/11 Commission Report cites what I am referring to - I believe it's Khalid Al-Midhar.
- It's one of the 9/11 hijackers.
- Q. Can you spell the last name the best you can? This is not agency binding.
- 9 A. I think it's A-L-M-I-D-H-A-R.
- 10 Q. And who is this person?
- A. He is one of the 9/11 hijackers. 11
- 12 Q. And deceased, correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. So in your example, you indicated that 15 the CIA had information regarding -- what's his last 16 name again?
- 17 A. Al-Midhar.
- O. Al-Midhar, correct? 18
- A. Yes. That's what the 9/11 Commission 19 20 Report says.
- Q. And local law enforcement had an 22 encounter with this person?

- A. They had -- I believe local law
- 2 enforcement did. I know they definitely had contact

31 (121 to 124)

123

124

- with 9/11 hijackers. And I believe they did with
- 4 Al-Midhar. I am not entirely sure. But by way of
- example, I know other 9/11 hijackers and probably
- him.
- Q. So does TSC view as one of its objectives
- the sharing of information that some government
- 9 agencies have to other government agencies as well
- 10 as state and local law enforcement?
- 11 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague and 12 compound.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 14 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 15 Q. I want to get back to this common
- 16 operating picture. What information does TSC
- 17 disseminate that establishes among Federal
- 18 Government agencies a common operating picture?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 19
- 20 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Let me withdraw that. That was a 21
- 22 terrible question. How does TSC establish a common
- 1 operating picture among federal -- I am sorry.
- 2 Let's try one more time. How does TSC establish a
- common operating picture among the recipients of
- 4 TSDB information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Potentially
- 6 calls for information protected by the law
- enforcement privilege. Objection. Vague. You can
- answer to the extent that you can.
- 9 THE WITNESS: So intelligence or
- 10 information that -- you know, that feeds nominations
- 11 then is -- you know, the fact that the USG -- U.S.
- 12 Government -- has information related to terrorism
- 13 on individuals is -- then facilitates their
- 14 screening mission to aid them. And possibly
- 15 depending on the circumstances going back to
- 16 discover what that derogatory information is, it
- 17 gives them the opportunity to make further inquiry
- 18 or otherwise whatever their particular mission is to
- 19 accomplish that counter-terrorism mission. And the
- 20 reporting back of encounters of that information
- 21 completes that what we would describe as the
- 22 intelligence cycle.

PLANET DEPOS

32 (125 to 128)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

Conducted on	March 1, 2018
125	127
1 Q. Does it sounds like the purpose of	1 answer that to the extent that you can. Also,
2 what you are calling the intelligence cycle is	2 vague.
3 broader than addressing imminent threats to	3 THE WITNESS: Yes.
4 commercial aviation, correct?	4 BY MR. ABBAS:
5 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague,	5 Q. One of the databases that the Terror
6 mischaracterizes his prior testimony. You can	6 Screening Center creates, maintains, and
7 answer.	7 disseminates is called the Terror Screening
8 THE WITNESS: I believe I have already	8 Database, correct?
9 answered that, yes.	9 A. Yes.
10 BY MR. ABBAS:	10 Q. And there is another database that
11 Q. So TSC disseminates TSDB information to	11 contains information regarding encounters with TSDB
12 counter threats that are not imminent, correct?	12 listees, correct?
13 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.	13 A. Yes.
14 Objection. Mischaracterizes his prior testimony.	Q. What is the name of the database that TSC
15 THE WITNESS: What do you describe as	15 creates, maintains, and disseminates that contains
16 imminent?	16 encounter information with TSDB listees?
17 BY MR. ABBAS:	MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object on the
18 Q. Immediate, forthcoming, about to happen.	18 basis of the law enforcement privilege. But you can
19 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.	19 answer that to the extent that you can.
THE WITNESS: Well, I don't know. To	THE WITNESS: The database that maintains
21 clarify, it is to prevent things like 9/11. And if	21 encounters is now called TSS. I don't remember, to
22 one of these individuals had been on the watch list	22 be honest, what the TSS stands for. It used to be
126	128
1 and had been stopped in a traffic stop as they drove	1 called the Encounter Management Application.
2 across the country, I don't know if that meets your	2 MR. ABBAS: Indiana.
3 definition of imminent. But that is something we	3 BY MR. ABBAS:
4 are trying to detect in order to ultimately thwart	4 Q. TSS is the name of the database that
5 that. But I don't know what your definition of	5 contains DHS listee encounter information, correct?
6 imminent in that case is.	6 A. Yes.
7 BY MR. ABBAS:	7 Q. You don't know what TSS stands for,
8 Q. I am just trying to get a little	8 correct?
9 elaboration on what this common operating picture	9 A. I don't.
10 is. Does the does the creation of TSDB	10 Q. When was TSS created?
11 information, which include this encounter	11 A. It shifted over approximately a year ago.
12 information, correct does the TSDB I wanted to	12 Q. It shifted over. What is that?
13 clarify. Is encounter information regarding TSDB	13 A. From MO – the previous system was
14 listees in a separate database from the TSDB itself?	14 replaced by TSS.
15 A. Yes.	15 Q. So there was a previous system there
16 Q. So there is two different databases that	16 was a I'm sorry. Let me start over all. There
17 maybe there is a billion. There are at least two	17 was a system prior to TSS that contained TSDB listee
18 different databases that the Terror Screening Center	18 encounter information, correct?
19 creates, maintains, and disseminates?	19 A. Correct.
20 MS. KONKOLY: Objection.	Q. What was the name of the system prior to
21 Mischaracterized his prior testimony. Objection.	21 TSS that contained TSDB listee encounter
22 Potentially law enforcement privilege. You can	22 information?
1 5	I.

33 (129 to 132)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

129 131 1 believe, and TSC probably in concurrence decided MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and that that was the thing to do. I assume that that 2 answered. was then ratified by the Watch Listing Advisory THE WITNESS: It is EMA, which stands for 4 Encounter Management Application. We refer to it as Council. EMA. 5 MR. ABBAS: Indiana. 6 BY MR. ABBAS: BY MR. ABBAS: 6 Q. The -- why did TSC assume control over Q. So EMA? A. Yes. encounter information from the FBI? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a Q. Does TSC -- TSC creates, maintains, and 10 disseminates TSS, correct? 10 legal conclusion. Objection. Potentially 11 privileged under the law enforcement privilege. But A. Disseminates -- I just want to make a 12 distinction between the way TSDB is disseminated. 12 you can answer if you know without waiving the 13 privilege. 13 It is quite different from the way EMA or encounter 14 THE WITNESS: I think it was found -- it 14 information, would be a better way to put it, is 15 was believed to be more efficient to have the folks 15 disseminated. They are not the same kind of 16 automatic access to that data that there is for the 16 that made decisions on dissemination co-located with 17 Terror Screening Database. In some ways they are 17 the individuals who received the initial report of 18 the encounter. It was an opportunity for better 18 quite different. 19 collaboration. And to the best of my knowledge, O. Okay. So they are disseminated 20 differently and access to them -- I'm sorry. TSC 20 that's why a decision was made. BY MR. ABBAS: 21 regulates access to EMA information differently than 21 22 -- I am sorry. Let me back up. TSC manages access 22 Did the transfer of encounter information 132 130 1 to encounter information differently than it manages 1 from the FBI to the Terror Screening Center involve access to TSDB information? the export of information that TSC did not already 3 A. Correct. 3 have? Q. Was it always TSC that managed -- I am A. I am sorry. To export to who? 5 sorry. Was it always TSC that always maintained TSC. From the FBI to TSC. Let me try to 6 encounter information regarding TSDB listees? ask it a different way. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague, A. Sure. 8 objection. Potentially law enforcement privilege. O. Was the FBI -- did the FBI collect 9 Objection. Scope. But you can answer that if you encounter information -- I am sorry. Prior to TSS, 10 know. 10 did the FBI collect encounter information that TSC THE WITNESS: The -- the encounters have 11 didn't have? 12 always been reported to TSC. There was a change, I A. I believe TSC had access to that 12 13 believe, in about 2013 where that encounter 13 information. But yes, I think -- it was really a 14 information used to be housed at FBI and is now 14 two-step -- it was really a two-step process prior 15 housed at TSC. 15 that we have now made more seamless by co-locating 16 BY MR. ABBAS: 16 and honestly bringing what was previously separate 17 Q. Who made the decision to transfer 17 systems together. 18 encounter information from FBI to TSC? Q. So now there is only one single system MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 19 19 that houses TSDB listee encounter information, 20 Objection. Potentially law enforcement privilege. 20 correct? 21 Objection. Scope. You can answer if you know. 21 A. Yes.

22

And the name of that system is TSS?

22

THE WITNESS: Certainly the FBI, I

34 (133 to 136)

Conducted on March 1, 2018 133 135 1 You can answer it if you can. A. Correct. THE WITNESS: Yeah, I don't believe I can Q. We don't know what TSS stands for, but that's the name of the system? answer that without -- without getting into 4 A. Yes. privilege. Q. Is the TSDB and TSS cross-referenced by 5 MR. ABBAS: Can you repeat the question? 6 (The record was read.) listee name or in some other way? MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. A. Certainly by --Q. I am sorry for interrupting you. Let me 8 MR. ABBAS: What are the objections? 9 back up. That was a bad question. What is the 9 MS. KONKOLY: That it calls for 10 relationship between TSS and TSDB? 10 information protected by the law enforcement 11 privilege. And I said he can answer to the extent A. Well, someone would not be in TSS unless 12 they had been in TSDB, first of all. There is a 12 that he could. And he said that he can't. THE WITNESS: And I think it also 13 reference number that would be -- that would tie the 13 14 records together. And so that particular reference 14 involves state secrets. 15 number would be -- besides the name -- would be the MS. KONKOLY: Well, then state secrets as 15 16 identifier. 16 well. Q. Does TSS and TSDB, do those two databases 17 BY MR. ABBAS: 18 automatically populate each other in some manner? Q. Does -- flight -- TSC is aware that TSA A. No. 19 keeps track of flight records of air travelers, 20 Q. So any change to TSS requires a human 20 correct? 21 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. SSI, potential 21 being to make it? 22 law enforcement. You can answer that if you can. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. 134 136 1 Mischaracterized his prior testimony. Objection. THE WITNESS: I mean, I generally know 2 Potential law enforcement. You can answer. that TSA screens against flights, and there are 3 BY MR. ABBAS: electronic systems that are involves. Q. Let me withdraw the question. Does -- in BY MR. ABBAS: 5 order to make a change to TSS, does a human being Q. And that per its screening practices, 6 have to make a change to TSS? I am sorry. Let me records are generated of each flight that every 7 try one more time. Does a change to TSS require a person undertakes? 8 human being's involvement? There we go. MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object. 9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as it 9 Potentially SSI, potentially law enforcement. That 10 is also a question that calls for information in the 10 calls for information protected by the law 11 possession of another agency. You can speak to your 11 enforcement privilege. But you can answer if you 12 understanding. But his answer will not bind. 12 can. THE WITNESS: Yes, individuals have to --MR. ABBAS: I mean, that stuff is in the 13 13 14 overview document. 14 there may be some data that comes in automatically 15 from various feeds. But, ultimately, nothing 15 MS. KONKOLY: Okay. 16 happens without a human being's involvement with MR. ABBAS: It in the overview document. 16 17 TSS. THE WITNESS: Yeah, but you used certain 18 words like every and every passenger. And records BY MR. ABBAS: 18 Q. What information enters TSS automatically 19 are made -- I don't know -- you know, we could -- a 20 without a human being's involvement? 20 bunch of lawyers in a room could spend all day on

21 that, right?

BY MR. ABBAS:

22

MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that

22 calls for law enforcement sensitive information.

35 (137 to 140)

Conducted on March 1, 2018			
137	139		
1 Q. Sure, sure. And it is not a trick	1 referring to in that answer?		
2 question. And if I am wrong, tell me I am wrong.	2 A. I don't think I can go		
3 TSC understands that TSC creates records that regard	3 MS. KONKOLY: I object based on SSI and		
4 each flight that every passenger that crosses U.S.	4 also that being information within the purview of		
5 interspace undertakes?	5 another agency.		
6 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.	6 Q. So you can tell me that TSC has		
7 Objection. Potentially SSI or law enforcement.	7 information that TSA collects about people's		
8 THE WITNESS: Yeah, the way you phrase	8 travels, but you can't tell me what information TSC		
9 that, I don't know.	9 collects TSA collects.		
10 BY MR. ABBAS:	10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.		
11 Q. Does TSC have information about the	THE WITNESS: I don't understand.		
12 flights that TSDB listees undertake?	12 BY MR. ABBAS:		
MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that	13 Q. Is there a subset of TSDB information		
14 answer calls for information protected by the law	14 that all federal agencies receive?		
15 enforcement privilege or potentially the state	MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that		
16 secrets. But you can answer it to the extent you	16 calls for information subject to the law enforcement		
17 or SSI.	17 privilege. You can answer it if you can.		
18 MR. ABBAS: I am just asking for TSC	18 THE WITNESS: I haven't testified that		
19 information. I am not asking for TSA information.	19 all federal agencies receive TSDB information, so.		
20 MS. KONKOLY: Okay. The objections	20 BY MR. ABBAS:		
21 stand. You can answer to the extent that you can.	21 Q. Of the federal agencies that do receive		
22 THE WITNESS: Sorry. Can you repeat it	22 TSDB information, is there any subset of TSDB		
138	140		
1 because I lost it?	1 information that all of them receive?		
2 MR. ABBAS: Can you read it back? I	2 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as it		
3 don't remember, either.	3 calls for information protected by the law		
4 (The record was read.)	4 enforcement privilege. You can answer if you can.		
5 MS. KONKOLY: And I am going to assert	5 THE WITNESS: As a practical matter,		
6 all the same objections. You can answer to the	6 there probably is. I wouldn't say that it is		
7 extent that you can.	7 something that we have necessarily defined that way.		
8 THE WITNESS: I would say generally I	8 These are kind of VIN diagrams that overlap. So as		
9 think they have information.	9 a practical matter, there probably is. I probably		
10 BY MR. ABBAS:	10 couldn't define for you exactly what that is,		
11 Q. By "they," you mean TSC?	11 because there are separate rules that govern each		
12 A. TSA.	12 one of those what we would call an export.		
13 Q. Has information about I mean	BY MR. ABBAS:		
14 A. About –	14 Q. Are the rules that govern exports of TSDB		
15 MR. ABBAS: I'm sorry. Let's do this.	15 information newly created every time that there is		
16 Can you read back the answer?	16 an export of TSDB information?		
17 (The record was read.)	MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as it		
18 BY MR. ABBAS:	18 calls for law enforcement information. You can		

19 answer if you can.

THE WITNESS: No. Generally, those rules

21 are -- they may be adjusted from time to time. But

22 many of these exports happen automatically and

19

20

22

A.

21 question.

Q. Who is "they" in the answer?

That would be TSA in response to your

And what is the information that you are

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1 continuously.
2 BY MR. ABBAS:

3 Q. Okay. So I still don't have a sense of

4 what TSC does to establish a common operating

5 picture among federal agencies to detect and stop

6 terrorism. I am sorry. Identify all actions TSC

7 takes to accomplish a common operating picture among

8 recipients of TSDB information or TSS information.

9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 10 would implicate information protected by the law

11 enforcement privilege or SSI. Also, vague. Also

12 compound. You can answer to the extent that you

13 can.

14 THE WITNESS: Well, since that's

15 everything that TSC more or less does, we take

16 intelligence and law enforcement-related

17 information. We build a reliable thorough and

18 current list from that information. We disseminate

19 that information to screening partners commensurate

20 with the law, with policy, with technical and

21 practical considerations to screening partners.

We record information about encounters.

1 And between that, the other piece I left out of that

2 was we conduct identity resolution with the partner

3 to make sure that the person encountered is indeed

4 somebody that we are looking for, to exclude people

5 that are not on the TSDB and that we are not trying

6 to screen against. We then disseminate that

7 information in a way that it completes the

8 intelligence cycle and other people have operational

9 or intelligence or law enforcement equities --

10 screening equities that can effectively complete

11 their mission.

12 BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Who decides which agencies have equities

14 in a situation that regards TSDB listee?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

16 THE WITNESS: Do you mean post-encounter?

17 BY MR. ABBAS:

18 Q. Probably more generally. I don't know

19 what you mean by equities. What do you mean when

20 you say -- you used the word equities?

21 A. Uh-huh.

Q. What do you mean by that term in this

1 specific context?

A. By equities -- we talked about earlier

3 generally the nominator, the organization that had

4 the information originally would tend to have. I

5 would define that as an equity. An organization if

6 it is something within their mission. So if they

7 are responsible for aviation security and it

8 involves a flight, they would have an equity. If it

9 involves a border encounter, then obviously border

10 screening organizations have equities. If it is a

11 domestic encounter, generally the FBI would have an

12 equity. There are others, but that's generally what

13 I mean.

14 Q. Aside from establishing a common

15 operating picture among recipients of TSDB

16 information, what else does TSC utilize the TSDB

17 for?

18 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

19 Objection insofar as it calls for information

20 protected by the law enforcement privilege. You can

21 answer.

142

THE WITNESS: Well, inasmuch as it is not

144

36 (141 to 144)

143

1 covered by the common operating picture discussion,

2 I think to enable all of our partner agencies to

3 accomplish their mission and ultimately prevent

4 terrorism even above that.

BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Does the -- does each person included in

7 the Terror Screening Database in TSC's view pose a

8 threat to commercial aviation?

9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. Calls

10 for speculation. Objection insofar as it calls for

11 information protected by the law enforcement

12 privilege. You can answer to the extent that you

13 can.

14 THE WITNESS: Each person in the database

15 has information about them that relates to terrorism

16 specifically and inasmuch as terrorists generally

17 pose a threat to aviation, I think, potentially.

18 But I do think there, you know, within the Terror

19 Screening Center of course we have different

20 subcomponents, which more neck at threats to

21 aviation.

22 BY MR. ABBAS:

37 (145 to 148)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

Conducted on March 1, 2018				
145	147			
1 Q. A person can be included I am sorry.	1 Mischaracterized prior testimony. Objection. Asked			
2 TSC includes persons in the TSDB for whom it	2 and answered. Objection insofar as it implicates			
3 possesses no information that they pose any threat	3 law enforcement or SSI. But you can answer.			
4 to commercial aviation, correct?	4 THE WITNESS: I think the gist of your			
5 MS. KONKOLY: Objection.	5 question, the answer is what I just previously			
6 Mischaracterized his prior testimony. Objection	6 stated, that every record does not have			
7 vague. Objection insofar as that calls for	7 particularized information with respect to aviation			
8 information by the law enforcement privilege. You	8 terrorism. And I would say that that was never the			
9 can answer to the extent that you can.	9 intent.			
10 THE WITNESS: I believe I already	10 BY MR. ABBAS:			
11 testified I can't agree with that statement.	11 Q. And I just want to make sure. You said			
12 BY MR. ABBAS:	12 record. I just want to make sure I got exactly what			
13 Q. Explain your disagreement with that	13 record you are referring to. TSDB records do not,			
14 statement.	14 as a rule, always contain information that's			
MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that	15 particular to I am sorry. Let me start all over.			
16 calls for any information protected by the law	16 Not all TSDB records contain information regarding			
17 enforcement privilege. You can answer to the extent				
18 that you can.	18 A. So let me just clarify here. TSDB does			
19 THE WITNESS: You said well	19 not contain the actual derogatory information. Now,			
MR. ABBAS: Do you want her to read it	20 it is linked to other systems, which do contain that			
21 back?	21 derogatory information. So in no TS within the			
22 THE WITNESS: Yeah, read it back. I	22 TSDB, there is no particularized derogatory			
146	148			
1 think it was	1 information of anyone. But we do have a record of			
2 (The record was read.)	2 where to well, we can find that information in			
3 MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. And I	3 holdings of the National Counter-Terrorism Center or			
4 would also add to the extent that it calls for SSI.	4 the FBI.			
5 But you can answer.	5 That said, to get in TSDB, we have to			
6 THE WITNESS: My previous answer, the one	6 have access to derogatory information. And when you			
7 before that, spoke to the fact that I think	7 access that derogatory information, which supports			
8 terrorism in general poses a threat as history has	8 the TSDB record, then they do not all have			
9 shown to aviation. There is not particularized	9 particularized aviation threat information, although			
10 aviation threat information in every record, but	10 they do have information related to terrorism.			
11 there is a relationship to terrorism.	11 Q. So particularized aviation threat			
12 BY MR. ABBAS:	12 information is not a requirement for being included			
13 Q. So there are TSDB listees for whom TSC	13 in the TSDB, correct?			
14 possesses no information that they pose a threat to	14 A. Correct.			
15 commercial aviation?	15 Q. Okay. So we have talked about the TSDB,			
	16 the TSS, and then there is a database that contains			
16 MS. KONKOLY: Objection.				
BY MR. ABBAS:	17 all the derogatory information that's the basis of			
18 Q. I'm sorry. Let me withdraw that	18 the TSDB, correct?			
19 question. TSC includes persons in the TSDB for whom	19 A. There are actually two databases.			
20 they have no information that that person poses a	20 Q. There's two databases, okay. What two			
21 particularized threat to commercial aviation?	21 databases contain the derogatory information that is			
22 MS. KONKOLY: Objection.	22 the basis for the TSDB?			

38 (149 to 152) Conducted on March 1, 2018 151 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that BY MR. ABBAS: 1 Q. Does TSC have access to all derogatory 2 answer calls for information protected by the law information contained in the FBI's Sentinel 3 enforcement privilege. You can answer to the extent database? 4 you can. THE WITNESS: So the National MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as it 6 Counter-Terrorism Center maintains what's known as calls for information protected by the law 7 TIDE, the Terrorist Identities Datamart Environment. enforcement privilege. You can answer to the extent 8 And the FBI maintains Sentinel. And a distinction that you can. 9 is made between records that relate to what we would 9 THE WITNESS: Yes. 10 define as domestic terrorism and what we would 10 BY MR. ABBAS: 11 define as international terrorism. Q. Does TSC -- okay. So does TSC tell 11 12 other -- I'm sorry. Does TSC direct recipients of 12 BY MR. ABBAS: 13 TSDB information about how the recipients of TSDB Q. Does TSC possess complete access to 13 14 NCTC's TIDE database? 14 information should utilize TSDB information? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 15 16 Objection insofar as it calls for law enforcement 16 Objection insofar as it calls for information 17 sensitive information. You can answer if you can. 17 protected by law enforcement. You can answer to the THE WITNESS: When you say -- I have to 18 extent that you can. 19 qualify complete. There may be some administrative THE WITNESS: No. We provide the 20 functions or other pieces that we don't have access 20 information, and then they exercise their mission 21 to. But I would say generally the parts that would 21 pursuant to their own authorities. They make their 22 contain derogatory information supporting TSDB, yes, 22 own decisions with what to do with it. 150 152 1 we have access. MR. ABBAS: So it is 12:10 now. I am 2 BY MR. ABBAS: happy to keep on going, but lunch is whenever you Q. And so thanks for that clarification. want it to be. So when --4 Let me just rephrase. TSC has complete access to THE WITNESS: I usually don't eat lunch. 5 the substantive derogatory information. I'm sorry. But I assume that members of the team here probably

- 6 Let me start all over. TSC has complete access to
- 7 the derogatory information contained in NCTC's TIDE
- 8 database, correct?

9 A. Yes.

- 10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as it 11 calls for a law enforcement privilege. And asked 12 and answered, but.
- BY MR. ABBAS: 13
- Q. Does -- so Sentinel is the FBI's 14 15 database?

A. Yes. 16

- 17 Q. TSC -- and that database contains
- 18 derogatory information that forms the basis of the 19 TSDB?
- 20 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- THE WITNESS: For domestic terrorism 21
- 22 cases.

- 6 do.
- MS. KONKOLY: We have only been going
- about 40 minutes since we came back. I would like
- 9 to keep going.
- 10 MR. ABBAS: But I would like to set a
- 11 time for lunch. Like do you want to set it for 1,
- 12 1:15? I am happy to set it as you want to set it.
- 13 But I would like to set a time for lunch.
- MS. KONKOLY: 1:30 would get us halfway.
- 15 Maybe we could take a short break in between.
- 16 MR. ABBAS: 1:30 feels a little far away.
- 17 I think I could probably -- I will need a break by 18 one.
- 19 MS. KONKOLY: Okay. We can say one.
- 20 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Beyond establishing a common operating 21
- 22 picture, does TSC maintain TSDB for any other

39 (153 to 156)

Conducted on	March 1, 2018
153	155
1 purposes?	1 airports?
MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.	MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
Objection. Insofar as it calls for information	3 calls for law enforcement or SSI information. But
4 protected by the law enforcement privilege. You can	4 you can answer.
5 answer to the extent that you can.	5 THE WITNESS: If you mean how they are
6 THE WITNESS: I think I did already. I	6 screened at the airport, I mean, obviously they
7 think, you know, the general it is a common	7 putting people on the list, that may affect
8 operating picture. But inasmuch as that's not	8 somebody's potential screening. But but, you
9 identical to facilitating the missions of our	9 know, we do not tell TSA how to screen, if that's
10 partner agencies and, in general, preventing	10 what you mean.
11 terrorism, I would just add those two things.	BY MR. ABBAS:
12 BY MR. ABBAS:	12 Q. Can when TSC disseminates I am
13 Q. How does TSC's TSDB detect and stop	13 sorry. When TSC disseminates TSDB information to
14 terrorism?	14 TSA, does that information compel TSA to screen the
MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.	15 listee in a particular manner?
16 Objection. Calls for speculation. Objection	MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
17 insofar as it calls for information protected by the	17 calls for information protected by SSI or law
18 law enforcement or potentially the state secrets or	18 enforcement. Also to the extent that it calls for
19 SSI privileges. You can answer to the extent you	19 information within the purview of the Transportation
20 can.	20 Security Administration. It goes to TSC. But you
21 THE WITNESS: It provides a mechanism for	21 can answer to the extent that you can and vague.
22 agencies effectively through an established set of	22 THE WITNESS: Yeah, inasmuch as I
154	156
1 practices and procedures to share information in a	1 mean, we certainly do not set standards for TSA on
2 way that was not available in many ways that were	2 how they on how they screen.
3 not available before so they can each exercise their	3 BY MR. ABBAS:
4 authorities to accomplish their missions, but also	4 Q. It is up to them?
5 kind of through the aggregation of those	5 A. Yes.
6 responsibilities to effectively use existing	6 Q. Is there anything an agency can do with
7 authorities to detect and stop terrorism. Sometimes	7 TSDB information that would cause TSC to stop giving
8 it is the detection. And sometimes it is the actual	8 the agency TSDB information?
9 interdiction or, you know, the actual prevention of	9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. Calls
10 terrorist activities or at least supports	10 for speculation.
11 investigations that will accomplish those goals.	THE WITNESS: If if the TSC believed
12 BY MR. ABBAS:	12 an agency was violating the law or the Constitution,
13 Q. But TSC doesn't determine how	13 then we would certainly raise that, you know,
14 investigations are run, correct?	14 through the Watch Listing Advisory Council. Or if
15 A. Correct.	15 it was exigent through the chain of command of the
16 Q. TSC does not conduct its own	16 FBI, I can expect that that would be raised to
17 investigations, correct?	17 competent authority to address that.
18 A. Correct.	18 BY MR. ABBAS:
19 Q. And TSC does not decide who is arrested	19 Q. Does the TSC consider it to be part of
1 1 1 1 1 0	

PLANET DEPOS

22

20 its role in the watch listing process to decide who

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

21 receives TSDB information?

20 or charged with a crime?

A. Absolutely not.

TSC does not decide who screens at the

21

160

C. 1. (1. M. 1.1.2010

157

Conducted	on	March	1,	20	18
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THE WITNESS: Again, through the Watch

2 Listing Advisory Council, I think everybody that

3 sits on the council plays a role in deciding what is

4 -- what would be effective, appropriate, efficient,

5 legal, all of those things. So I think all of those

6 uses of information would be the kinds of things we

7 would discuss in that forum.

BY MR. ABBAS:

- 9 Q. Does the TSC impose any limits on its -- 10 let me start over. Does the TSC impose any limits
- 11 on agencies that receive -- let me start all over
- 12 one more time. Does TSC impose any limits on
- 13 recipients of TSDB information that limit those
- 14 recipients from further sharing TSDB information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague, compound 16 insofar as it implicates law enforcement privilege,
- 17 but you can answer.
- THE WITNESS: I think it goes back to the
- 19 aforementioned. I mean, we have an understanding of
- 20 the sort of use of that information through the
- 21 Watch Listing Advisory Council. There also may be
- 22 in some of those technical MOU's I described
- 1 earlier, there may be more specific parameters that
- 2 we agree. But that's a bilateral agreement between
- 3 the agencies.
- 4 And, again, if we thought that somebody
- 5 was not living up to that agreement, we would either 5
- 6 address it directly with that organization or
- 7 through the aforementioned processes.
- 8 MR. ABBAS: Arizona.
- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 10 Q. Who decides which foreign governments 11 receive TSDB information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 13 Objection insofar as that calls for the law
- 14 enforcement -- information protected by the law
- 15 enforcement or potential state secrets. But you can
- 16 answer to the extent that you can.
- 17 THE WITNESS: I don't believe I can 18 answer that without violating a privilege.
- MR. ABBAS: What's the privilege? What's
- 20 the privilege over who decides what foreign
- 21 governments receive TSDB information?
- MS. KONKOLY: The law enforcement or

1 potentially state secrets.

BY MR. ABBAS:

- Q. Does -- can TSC refuse to disseminate
- 4 TSDB information to foreign governments that engage
- 5 in a pattern of human rights abuses?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for
- 7 speculation. Objection. Vague. Objection insofar
- 3 as that calls for information protected by the law
- 9 enforcement or the state secrets privilege. You can
- 10 answer to the extent you can.
- 11 THE WITNESS: I think the only thing I
- 12 can say about that is the potential for that is
- 13 absolutely a consideration in that aforementioned 14 decision.
- 15 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 16 Q. Does TSC disseminate TSDB information to 17 foreign governments that engage in patterns of 18 torture?
- 19 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 20 Objection. Calls for speculation, legal conclusion,
- 21 also insofar as it implicates information protected
- 22 by the law enforcement or potentially state secrets.

158

1 You can answer to the extent that you can.

- THE WITNESS: Boy, that's a loaded word
- 3 that I hesitate to understand what your definition
- 4 of that is. And so I think that's probably so vague
- 5 that I can't answer it.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
- 7 Q. We will go with a more general term.
- 8 Human rights abuses.
- 9 MR. ABBAS: Can you read -- I forget the 10 question. Can you read it back just to me so that I 11 will see it again?
- 12 (The record was read.)
- 13 MR. ABBAS: So I will rephrase the 14 question.
- 15 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 16 Q. Does TSC disseminate TSDB information to 17 foreign governments that engage in a pattern of 18 human rights abuses?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and 20 answered. Objection. Vague. Objection. Calls for 21 a legal conclusion. Objection insofar as that 22 information calls for information protected by

1 either the law enforcement or the state secrets 2 privilege.

THE WITNESS: I have already testified

- 4 that there are more than 60 countries that we have
- 5 agreements with. And I would hesitate to name any
- 6 60 countries that someone would not have an
- 7 allegation of a human rights abuse amongst one of th
- 8 60. So, again, I feel like this is so vague I can't
- 9 answer it.
- 10 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Does TSC know names of the foreign 12 governments that it disseminates TSDB information 13 to?

14 A. Yes.

- Q. Does TSC dissemination TSS information to 15 instructing the witness not to answer. 15 16 foreign governments?
- 17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 18 calls for information protected by the law 19 enforcement or potentially the state secrets 20 privileges. You can answer if you can.
- THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. Repeat that 21 22 one.

BY MR. ABBAS:

- O. Does TSC disseminate TSS information to foreign governments?
- 4 MS. KONKOLY: Same objections.
- THE WITNESS: Disseminate TSS 5
- information? So, in other words, encounter information.
- BY MR. ABBAS: 8
- 9 Q. Yes.
- 10 MS. KONKOLY: Same objections.
- THE WITNESS: Sometimes. 11
- 12 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. In what circumstances does TSC 14 disseminate encounter -- encounter information is 15 the preferred term?

16 A. It is a little simpler, yes.

- Q. Sure. I will say encounter information. 17 18 And by encounter information, we are -- that's the 19 information that's contained in TSS, correct?
- 20 A. Correct.
- O. In what circumstances does TSC 21 22 disseminate encounter information to foreign

- 1 governments?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as this 3 calls for information protected by the law
- 4 enforcement privilege and potentially the state
- secrets privilege. I am instructing the witness not
 - to answer.
 - MR. ABBAS: You are not going to -- wait

41 (161 to 164)

163

- 8 -- why -- can you read back the question?
- (The record was read.)
- 10 MS. KONKOLY: And I will just clarify 11 that I should have said not insofar, but objection 12 that this information does call for information
- 13 protected by the law enforcement privilege and 14 potentially the state secrets privilege. And I am
- 16 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 17 Q. You testified that TSC sometimes 18 disseminates encounter information to foreign 19 governments, correct?
- 20 A. I did.

- 21 Q. Does -- how many foreign governments does 22 TSC disseminate encounter information to?
 - 164 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
- information is protected by the law enforcement
- privilege or potentially the state secrets
- 4 privilege. Also, asked and answered. Also, I am
- going to note that this line of questioning is not
- 6 clearly within the scope of the topics ordered by
- 7 the court. So I will allow it for now. We will see
- 8 where it goes. We may need to force that at some 9 point.
- 10 THE WITNESS: I don't think I can -- I 11 don't think I can answer that.
- 12 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Are there agreements between -- let me 14 start all over. Are there documents that govern how 15 TSC disseminates the encounter information to 16 foreign governments?
- 17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Insofar as that 18 calls for information protected by the law
- 19 enforcement or potentially the state secrets
- 20 privileges or SSI, also as to scope. You can answer 21 to the extent that you can.
- 22 MR. ABBAS: I mean, this is stuff in the

42 (165 to 168)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

167 1 overview document. Encounter information is a 1 common operating picture with respect to 2 section of the overview document. I am asking about counterterrorism. But beyond that, I don't think 3 encounter information, which is a section of the there is anything else I can say. 4 overview document. Topic A is the content of the 4 BY MR. ABBAS: 5 overview document. I am asking about like literally O. So TSC disseminates encounter information 6 it's a section heading of the overview document. to foreign governments to establish with those MS. KONKOLY: Okay. My objections are on foreign governments a common operating picture? 8 the record and they stand. I told the witness he MS. KONKOLY: Objection. 9 Mischaracterized his prior testimony. Objection 9 can answer to the extent that he can. 10 insofar as the answer would call for law enforcement 10 THE WITNESS: Are there documents that 11 document what -- I am sorry. Can you just read it 11 privilege or state secrets potentially. You can 12 answer if you can. 12 back again? 13 BY MR. ABBAS: 13 THE WITNESS: Yes, I would say it's a 14 more limited picture. But beyond that, I can't say Q. I will just say it again. Are there 15 documents that memorialize how TSC disseminates 15 anymore. 16 encounter information to foreign governments? 16 BY MR. ABBAS: 17 MS. KONKOLY: Again, insofar as the 17 Q. What does TSC expect foreign governments 18 to do with information that TSC disseminates to 18 answer calls for information protected by the law 19 enforcement or the state secrets privilege. 19 them? 20 Objection as to scope. You can answer if you can. 20 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 21 THE WITNESS: Yes. 21 Objection. Insofar as that calls for information 22 MR. ABBAS: Arizona. 22 protected by law enforcement or potential state 166 168 1 secrets. You can answer if you can. BY MR. ABBAS: O. Does TSC know the number of countries --THE WITNESS: Pursuant to HSPD-6, it is 3 I am sorry. Does TSC know the number of foreign to prevent terrorism. MR. ABBAS: Can you read back the 4 governments that receive encounter information from 4 5 TSC? question? I don't think you answered. (The record was read.) 6 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the 6 7 answer calls for information protected by the law BY MR. ABBAS: 8 enforcement or potentially the state secrets Q. What does TSC expect foreign governments 9 privilege. Objection. Asked and answered. to do with the information that TSC disseminates to 10 Objection as to scope. You can answer if you can. 10 them? THE WITNESS: Yes. 11 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and 11 12 answered. Same objections as stated previously. 12 MR. ABBAS: Indiana. 13 THE WITNESS: To prevent terrorism. 13 MR. ABBAS: 14 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. Why does TSC disseminate encounter 15 information to foreign governments? 15 Q. How does TSC expect foreign governments 16 to use information that TSC provides them to prevent 16 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 17 speculation. Objection insofar as that answer calls 17 terrorism? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. This 18 for information by the law enforcement or state 18 19 secrets privilege or information within the purview 19 information would call for -- this answer would call 20 of another agency. You can answer if you can. 20 for information protected by the law enforcement and 21 THE WITNESS: I would just say generally 21 potentially the state secrets privilege. I will 22 inasmuch it goes to our mission to establish a 22 instruct you not to answer.

Conducted on March 1, 2018

BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Does TSC expect foreign governments to utilize information that TSC disseminates to them in their visa processes?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as this question calls for information protected by the law enforcement or the state secrets privilege. I will -- you can answer if you can without waiving a privilege.

10 THE WITNESS: I don't think I can.

11 BY MR. ABBAS:

12 Q. What information does TSC have about what

13 foreign governments do with information those

14 foreign governments receive from TSC?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and 16 answered. Objection on the basis of the law 17 enforcement and potentially the state secrets 18 privilege. I am instructing the witness not to 19 answer.

MR. ABBAS: You are not going to allow 21 the deponent to say anything? So they are just 22 disseminating information, and they have no

1 knowledge, awareness about what. I mean, this is an

2 overview document as well. There is an expectation

3 that the foreign governments are going to use them

4 for lawful screening purposes.

MS. KONKOLY: That's been asked and

6 answered. Insofar as you are asking anything

7 further beyond that, my objections are on the record

8 and they stand.

9 BY MR. ABBAS:

10 Q. Does TSC expect foreign governments to 11 utilize the information that TSC disseminates to 12 those foreign governments?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and 14 answered. Objection insofar as that question calls 15 for information protected by the law enforcement or 16 potentially state secrets. You can answer if you 17 can.

18 THE WITNESS: Yes, we expect them to use 19 that information.

20 BY MR. ABBAS:

21 Q. Has TSC ever stopped disseminating 22 information to foreign governments after learning

1 that that foreign government engages in human rights
2 abuses?

43 (169 to 172)

171

172

MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that information -- that question calls for information protected by law enforcement or potentially the state secrets. You can answer if you can without

7 waiving a privilege.

8 THE WITNESS: Not that I am aware of. 9 BY MR. ABBAS:

10 Q. Does TSC notify individuals that they 11 have been nominated to be included in the TSDB?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Does TSC notify individuals that their 14 nominations to the TSDB have been accepted by TSC?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Why? Why doesn't TSC notify individuals 17 that they have been nominated no the TSDB?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 19 calls for information protected by the law

20 enforcement privilege. You can answer if you can.

21 THE WITNESS: Because doing so would be 22 highly likely to run counter to the entire purpose

170

2

3

1 of having the TSDB.

BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Why?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that question calls for information protected by the law enforcement privilege. You can answer if you can.

8 the investigative interest in an individual would be 9 very likely to change their behavior to cause them

THE WITNESS: Because becoming aware of

10 to adopt countermeasures that would otherwise make

11 counterterrorism efforts in effective.

12 BY MR. ABBAS:

13 Q. Do people -- people on the No-Fly List 14 learn that they are on the No-Fly List because they 15 can't fly, correct?

16 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 17 speculation.

18 THE WITNESS: I would say not 19 necessarily. There are potentially many reasons why 20 somebody couldn't fly besides being on the No-Fly 21 List.

22 BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. What are the other reasons why a person 2 could (sic) fly other than if they are on the No-Fly

3 List?

4 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 5 question calls for information protected by SSI.

6 You can answer if you can.

THE WITNESS: One example is an airline 8 can deny a person boarding for any host of any

9 number of reasons.

10 BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Is being on the No-Fly List a reason to 11 12 be denied boarding?

13 A. Potentially it is. It is one of many.

Q. Has the Terror Screening Center ever 15 assessed whether individuals in the TSDB become 16 aware of their listing via the dissemination and 17 screening that's predicated on the dissemination of 18 TSDB information?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 20 calls for information protected by the law 21 enforcement privilege. You can answer to the extent 21 balancing. But I just want to hone in on the 22 you can. Also, vague.

174

THE WITNESS: We -- it's certainly

2 something we pay attention to. It is hard to -- it

3 is not like there is a flag in TSDB that goes up

4 when that happens. But from an analytical

5 perspective and anecdotal sometimes, that is a topic

6 that will cause discussions at the Watch Listing

7 Advisory Council. That's when I say they discuss

8 what's legal, but also what's effective and what's

9 practical. And we have to balance those things.

Q. So there is an awareness among the watch

11 listing agencies that when a person is placed in the

12 TSDB, they may learn through the operation and

13 dissemination of the TSDB that there is an

14 investigative interest regarding them?

15 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 16 speculation, vague. You can answer.

THE WITNESS: Yeah, there is an awareness 18 that, yeah, actions have effects, yes.

BY MR. ABBAS: 19

Q. So I just want to get a little more 21 specific on the actions and effects. So TSC is

22 aware that by including someone in the TSDB, the

1 listee may infer from the operation of the TSDB that

there is an investigative interest that regards

them?

4 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and answered. Objection. Calls for speculation and

vague.

THE WITNESS: It can happen.

8 BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Does the disclosure of -- generally 10 speaking, is it TSC's view that the disclosure of 11 the government's investigative interest in a person

12 is detrimental to national security?

A. It is -- it has to be balanced with the 13 14 mitigation to whatever other risks that that 15 individual may pose and whatever intelligence 16 benefit may come from that. So I think there are 17 two sides of that scale. In general, I would prefer 18 that people on the list not know they are on the 19 list, but there are other considerations.

20 Sure. And I understand that it is 22 disclosure of investigative interest. All things

176

44 (173 to 176)

175

1 being equal, the TSC's testimony today is that an

disclosure of investigative interest regarding a

person is detrimental to national security?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection.

Mischaracterized his prior testimony. Objection.

Vague.

THE WITNESS: I go back to exactly my

8 previous answer, which is it is detrimental as

9 balanced by those other considerations.

10 BY MR. ABBAS:

O. Does a person who satisfies the TSDB -- I 12 am sorry. Does TSC have information regarding 13 whether persons known to nominating agencies who 14 those nominating agencies believe satisfy the TSDB 15 inclusion standards are not ultimately nominated to 16 be included in the FBI because of this balancing

17 issue?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 18 19 Objection insofar as the answer would call for 20 information protected by the law enforcement 21 privilege. You can answer if you can.

22 THE WITNESS: I am trying to think. I

45 (177 to 180)

Conducted on	March 1, 2018
177	179
1 may have to confer on the answer to that of whether	1 potentially state secrets. You can answer to the
2 or not it is covered by the privilege.	2 extent that you can.
3 MR. ABBAS: Do you want to do that? We	3 THE WITNESS: No.
4 can step out for a few minutes. And just let us	4 BY MR. ABBAS:
5 know when you are done.	5 Q. Who decided that TSC would not provide
6 MS. KONKOLY: We could. I would like to	6 notice to individuals who have been nominated to the
7 wait until one for the lunch break.	7 TSDB?
8 MR. ABBAS: On this I think I can finish	8 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. I am pretty
9 at one with this kind of line.	9 sure that's been asked and answered. Objection
10 MS. KONKOLY: Okay. If you guys wouldn't	10 insofar as it would implicate law enforcement or
11 mind staying put and letting us step out. We'll	11 state secrets-privileged information. You can
12 step out.	12 answer if you can.
MR. ABBAS: Are you sure?	THE WITNESS: I think even before the TSC
14 MS. KONKOLY: Yeah.	14 stood up, I think there was a general understanding
MR. ABBAS: It's up to you. We will be	15 that that would be counterproductive. I don't know
16 ready whenever you are.	16 if it was ever it hasn't been considered since I
17 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the	17 have been there. And, certainly, when the TSC was
18 record. The time is 12:40 p.m.	18 stood up, the decision at that point would have been
19 (A brief recess was held.)	19 made not to do it because I don't think we ever
THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the	20 have.
21 record. The time is 12:45 p.m. And we have been on	Beyond that, I don't know. It is one of
22 the record for 3 hours, 4 minutes, and 10 seconds.	22 those things that's so basic that I don't think has
178	180
1 MS. KONKOLY: We had a pending question.	1 received a lot of debate.
2 Could we read it back, please?	2 MR. ABBAS: I am pretty sure that we are
3 (The record was read.)	3 at like a good stopping point right now. Can you
4 MS. KONKOLY: And I am objecting on the	4 give us like two minutes to step out, and I think we
5 basis of vagueness insofar as the answer would call	5 will just come back and adjourn for lunch. I know
6 for information protected by the law enforcement or	6 it's a little bit early. But I am done with this
7 potentially the state secrets privilege. But you	7 section. And we don't have time to really make a
8 can answer to the extent that you can without	8 meaningful dent into the next section. Does that
9 violating the privilege.	9 work?
THE WITNESS: I have a there is an	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the
11 expectation in the interagency community that	11 record. The time is 12:49 p.m.
12 agencies that hold such information will nominate	12 (A lunch recess was held.)
13 those individuals.	13 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Here begins disk
14 BY MR. ABBAS:	14 number three in the videotaped deposition of Timothy
15 Q. Does TSC have information that nominating	15 Paul Groh. The time on the video monitor is 1:54

16 agencies on occasion do not nominate persons they 17 believe would satisfy the TSDB inclusion standards 18 because it may disclose to the potential listee an

19 investigative interest in them?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 21 Objection insofar as a complete answer would call 22 for information protected by the law enforcement or

19 Q. Does TSC provide individuals nominated to 20 the TSDB the opportunity to rebut the derogatory 21 information that forms the basis of their nomination 22 to the TSDB?

16 p.m. We have been on the record for three hours and

17 eight minutes. And we are back on the record.

BY MR. ABBAS:

182

Transcript of Timothy P. Groh, Designated Representative

Conducted on March 1, 2018

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

THE WITNESS: Individuals who feel that

- 3 their travel has been somehow inhibited can apply
- 4 through DHS TRIP for redress. And the complaints
- 5 that are found through that to have a nexus to the
- 6 TSDB are then forwarded to the TSDB. And that can
- include a rebuttal of derogatory information and any
- information the -- I guess, in that case, the
- 9 complainant would like to provide.
- 10 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. So my question is, is it time specific?
- 12 So it is before the nomination happens -- before TSC
- 13 accepts the nomination. So I am going to ask the
- 14 question again. And I am inquiring about the
- 15 pre-nomination process that TSC provides to nominees 16 to the TSDB.
- 17 Does TSD -- I'm sorry. Does TSC provide
- 18 the opportunity to -- I am sorry. Let me start
- 19 again. With regards to persons nominated to the
- 20 TSDB, does TSC provide such persons the opportunity
- 21 to provide information that rebuts the derogatory
- 22 information that the nominating agency relies upon
- 1 for that person's nomination?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- THE WITNESS: If somebody wanted to rebut
- 4 the derogatory information, they could provide that
- information to the nominator. And the nominator
- 6 would be expected to give exculpatory information as
- 7 well as derogatory information as part of that
- 8 nomination process. And it would be something that
- 9 we would consider.
- 10 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Does TSC provide the prospective nominee
- 12 with the opportunity to rebut the derogatory
- 13 information that a nominating agency is relying upon
- 14 as the basis of their nomination of that person?
- 15 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- THE WITNESS: Isn't that the exact same 16
- 17 question you just asked me?
- BY MR. ABBAS: 18
- 19 Q. No.
- A. How is it different? 20
- So it is not a clear question. We agree 21
- 22 with that. Let me try again. So I think let's back

1 up. And I am going to cover a little more ground

46 (181 to 184)

183

- and I think a little ground we might have already
- covered just to establish a foundation. Does TSC
- 4 notify individuals who have been nominated to the
- TSDB?
- A. I think we covered that earlier. The answer is no.
- Does TSC provide individuals who have
- 9 been nominated to the TSDB with the opportunity to 10 provide TSC information that rebuts the nominating
- 11 agency's derogatory information that has been
- 12 included in the TSDB nomination?
- 13 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. Asked 14 and answered.
- 15 THE WITNESS: TSDB does not or the TSC 16 does not.
- 17 BY MR. ABBAS:
- O. The TSC does not what? That's fine. No. 19 never mind. That's clear. Okay. All right. So we 20 are going to talk about dissemination probably for a
- 21 while. Does TSC know the name of every individual 22 that has access to TSDB information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
 - Objection. Potentially calls for law enforcement
 - sensitive information. You can answer to the extent
 - that you can.
 - THE WITNESS: So I assume from your
 - question you don't mean access to the TSDB itself
 - because you said TSDB information.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
 - 9 Q. So, you know, I am being honest. I don't 10 really know, you know. But you know, I don't know
 - 11 how you disseminate it. So I am asking kind of the 12 --
 - 13 A. Thus, I am trying to clarify.
 - Yeah. So TSDB information is any kind of
 - 15 part of the TSDB. Any information regarding TSDB. 16 That's what I mean by TSDB information. So let me

 - 17 try with that kind of caveat in mind. Does TSC know
 - 18 the name of all persons who have any type of access
 - 19 to TSDB information?
 - 20 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 21 Objection insofar as it calls for law
- 22 enforcement-protected information. You can answer

47 (185 to 188)

Conducted on March 1, 2018 187 1 if you can. 1 particular effort to sit down and do that, no. BY MR. ABBAS: THE WITNESS: So assuming, as I take your 3 question, that you mean any information that is Q. Are there -- does TSC possess any 4 exported from TSDB to partner systems, no. The TSC 4 documents that regard how many persons have access 5 does not know the name of every individual that of any kind to TSDB information? 6 would then have access to information in those MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 7 Objection insofar as the answer would call for law 7 downstream systems. 8 enforcement-privileged information. You can answer 8 BY MR. ABBAS: 9 Q. Does TSC know the number of persons who 9 if you can. 10 have access of any kind to TSDB information? 10 THE WITNESS: So we know who we export MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 11 our information to. And we know for what purpose. 12 Objection insofar as the answer would call for law 12 But I don't, for instance, know how many employees 13 enforcement-privileged information. You can answer 13 at the Department of Homeland Security have access 14 to one of their systems that may have our 14 if you can. 15 15 information or the total number of police officers THE WITNESS: Certainly not a precise 16 number. 16 in the United States have access to NCIC, et cetera, 17 BY MR. ABBAS: 17 et cetera. Q. Does TSC have an estimate of how many BY MR. ABBAS: 18 19 persons have access to TSDB -- access -- I am sorry. O. Do tens of thousands of individuals have 19 20 Let me start again. Does TSC have an estimate of 20 access to TSDB information? 21 how many persons have access of any kind to TSDB MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 22 information? 22 Objection insofar as the answer would call for law 186 1 enforcement-privileged information. You can answer MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. Objection insofar as the answer calls for law if you can. 3 enforcement-privileged information. You can answer THE WITNESS: I think that's likely. 4 if you can. BY MR. ABBAS: THE WITNESS: I am not aware of a O. Do hundreds of thousands of individuals 6 specific estimate. One may have been done in the have access to TSDB information? 7 past. I don't know. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. BY MR. ABBAS: Objection insofar as the answer would call for law Q. Has TSC estimated the number of 9 enforcement-privileged information. You can answer 10 individuals who have access of any kind to TSDB 10 if you can. 11 information? THE WITNESS: I believe that the total 12 number of police officers in the United States 12 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. THE WITNESS: Yeah, I think it was the 13 exceeds 100,000. 13 BY MR. ABBAS: 14 same question. No. 14 15 BY MR. ABBAS: 15 Q. And each police officer through NCIC 16 would have access to TSDB information, correct? O. TSC has never done an estimate of -- has MS. KONKOLY: Objection. 17 never ventured a guess as to how many persons have 18 access of any kind to TSDB information? 18 Mischaracterized his prior testimony. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague and 19 MR. ABBAS: I haven't asked him any 20 objection as to scope. Protective order. You can 20 questions about NCIC yet. 21 answer if you can. THE WITNESS: In many or most cases they

22

THE WITNESS: I am not aware of a

22 will. I can't speak to every department's policies

48 (189 to 192)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

189 191 as to who has access to what. Q. Physically located outside the United 2 BY MR. ABBAS: 2 States? 3 Q. Is it TSC's testimony today that hundreds 3 MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. of thousands of individuals have access to TSDB 4 BY MR. ABBAS: information? 5 Q. So including foreigners and I am sure MS. KONKOLY: Objection. embassies and consulates. 6 Mischaracterized his prior testimony. Objection. 7 A. Yeah, I don't think I can answer that. 8 Vague. MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. 8 9 THE WITNESS: My testimony is there are 9 BY MR. ABBAS: 10 hundreds of thousands of law enforcement officers in 10 Q. How many persons -- let's start all over. 11 the United States. And most of them likely have 11 Does TSC know how many persons associated with 12 access to TSDB information through NCIC. 12 foreign governments have access to TSDB information? 13 BY MR. ABBAS: 13 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for Q. So, I mean, if you don't think that 14 speculation. Objection. Vague. Objection insofar 15 hundreds of thousands of individuals have access to 15 as the answer would call for information protected 16 TSDB information, you can just say that they don't 16 by the law enforcement privilege. You can answer if 17 have access, that it is not hundreds of thousands. 17 you can. 18 If you do believe that hundreds of thousands of 18 THE WITNESS: The way the systems --19 individuals have access to TSDB information, then 19 yeah, I don't know -- I do not know that number. 20 you are not answering the question. 20 BY MR. ABBAS: So do hundreds of -- are -- is it TSC's 21 O. Does TSC know that number? 21 22 testimony that more than 100,000 individuals inside 22 I don't believe so. 190 192 1 the United States have access to TSDB information? 1 Q. Does TSC have an estimate of the number MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. of persons associated with foreign governments that Objection. Asked and answered. Objection. have access to TSDB information? 4 Calls --MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. Objection. Calls for speculation. Objection THE WITNESS: So I am trying to express 6 how I come to that conclusion. So based on the insofar as the answer would implicate information 7 number of police officers, I think it is likely that protected by the law enforcement privilege. You can 8 more than a 100,000 people in the United States have answer to the extent you can. THE WITNESS: I am sorry. Can you repeat 9 access to TSDB information. 9 10 BY MR. ABBAS: 10 that one? Q. How many people outside the United States 11 (The record was read.) 12 have access to TSDB information? MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. 12 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 13 THE WITNESS: Not that I am aware of. 14 Objection. Calls for speculation. And objection 14 BY MR. ABBAS: 15 insofar as the answer would call for information 15 Q. Does TSC exercise any control over the 16 protected by the law enforcement privilege. You can 16 number of persons that have access to TSDB 17 answer if you can. 17 information? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 18 THE WITNESS: First of all, let me 18 19 clarify. When you say people outside the United 19 Objection. Calls for speculation. Objection 20 States, do you mean physically located outside the 20 insofar as the answer would call for information 21 United States or do you mean foreigners? 21 protected by the law enforcement privilege. You can 22 BY MR. ABBAS: 22 answer if you can.

49 (193 to 196)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

195 THE WITNESS: What do you mean by BY MR. ABBAS: 1 2 Q. Let's -- so I will get back to the 2 control? BY MR. ABBAS: foreign governments. I know there is some privilege 3 4 Q. Let me just do the question again. Does issues with the foreign governments. But with TSC determine in any way the number of individuals | 5 regards to -- let's just talk about with regards to who have access to TSDB information? 6 domestic, non-Federal Government entities. Okay. 7 So with regards to domestic, non-Federal Government MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 8 Objection insofar as the answer would call for 8 entities who receive from TSC TSDB information, does 9 information protected by law enforcement privilege. 9 TSC require such domestic, non-Federal Government 10 You can answer to the extent that you can. 10 entities to adhere to any standards regarding who THE WITNESS: I am sorry. One more time 11 those non-Federal Government domestic entities grant 11 12 on that particular question. 12 access to? MR. ABBAS: Can you read it back? 13 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 13 14 Objection. Misleading and compound. Objection (The record was read.) 14 MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. 15 insofar as the answer would call for information 15 THE WITNESS: No, TSC does not control 16 protected by law enforcement privilege. You can 16 17 the number of individuals with foreign governments; 17 answer to the extent that you can. THE WITNESS: So the TSC doesn't export 18 the same as we don't control the number of 19 any non-Federal Government entities any TSDB 19 individuals domestically. 20 BY MR. ABBAS: 20 information with the exception of the aforementioned 21 Q. Does TSC establish the process by which 21 foreign partners. 22 recipients of TSDB information make available the BY MR. ABBAS: 194 196 1 information they receive from TSC to persons? Q. Doesn't TSC make TSDB information MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. accessible to state and local authorities, colleges, 3 Objection insofar as the answer would call for universities, travel authorities? 4 information protected by the law enforcement MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. privilege. You can answer if you can. Objection. Compound. Objection insofar as the THE WITNESS: I am not sure what you mean answer would call for information protected by the 6 by make available to -law enforcement privilege. You can answer to the BY MR. ABBAS: extent vou can. 9 Q. Let me try again. Does TSC -- does TSC 9 THE WITNESS: No. The TSC exports to the 10 establish -- I am sorry. Does TSC require 10 FBI through to the National Crime Information 11 recipients of TSDB information to adhere to 11 Center. 12 standards regarding who recipients of TSDB 12 BY MR. ABBAS: 13 information allow access in any way to TSDB the Q. And so the National Crime information 13 14 information? 14 Center is the FBI? 15 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. A. It is part of the FBI. 15 16 Objection insofar as the answer would call for The FBI controls the National Crime 17 information protected by the law enforcement 17 Information Center? 18 privilege. You can answer to the extent you can. 18 A. That's correct. THE WITNESS: The individual agreements Q. And who told TSC to export TSDB 19 19 20 with individual countries would govern generally how 20 information to the National Crime Information 21 they -- what the understanding is between the two 21 Center? 22 governments as to the use of that information. 22 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

199

200

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1	Objection.	C-11-	C	1 1	1	:	:	
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- 2 -- also, objection insofar as the answer would call
- 3 for information protected by the law enforcement
- 4 privilege. You can answer to the extent that you
- 5 can.
- 6 THE WITNESS: It would be governed by the
- 7 Watch Listing Advisory Council as we discussed -- as
- 8 we discussed earlier.
- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 10 Q. Does TSC know which entities have access 11 to the NCIC?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the
- 13 information -- the answer would call for information
- 14 protected by the law enforcement privilege. You can
- 15 answer to the extent that you can.
- 16 THE WITNESS: Certainly, NCIC knows who
- 17 they then export to. But the TSC does not have 18 direct knowledge of that.
- 19 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 20 Q. Does TSC have access to NCIC?
- 21 A. TSC has access to NCIC via the State of
- 22 Virginia, who then receives it from the Criminal

1 Justice Information System's division, CJIS, which | 1

- 2 runs NCIC.
- Q. So the Terror Screening Center has access
- 4 to the NCIC because Virginia has access to the NCIC?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Why is that the arrangement?
- 7 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the
- 8 answer would call for --
- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 10 Q. Let me withdraw it. Why doesn't the
- 11 Terror Screening Center get access to the NCIC
- 12 directly from the FBI?
- 13 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 14 Objection insofar as the answer would call for
- 15 information protected by the law enforcement
- 16 privilege. You can answer to the extent you can.
- 17 THE WITNESS: I honestly don't know why
- 18 the system was set up that particular way. It is
- 19 true nationwide.
- 20 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 21 Q. What's true nationwide?
- 22 A. The entities geographically located

- 1 within a state or territory receive NCIC through
- 2 that state or territorial I forget what the term
- 3 is NCIC bureau or something along those lines.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. So there is like a single point of
- 6 contact for NCIC information per state?
 - A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Okay. And territories?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. Which Federal Government entities
- 11 -- I am sorry. TSC provides -- I am sorry. Let me
- 12 start over. TSC exports TSDB information in a
- 13 variety of different ways to recipients of TSDB
- 14 information, correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Are there a fixed number of ways that TSC 17 provides TSDB information to entities that receive 18 TSDB information?
- 19 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 20 Objection insofar as the answer would call for
- 21 information protected by the law enforcement
- 22 privilege. You can answer to the extent you can.

THE WITNESS: I think each individual

- 2 export is -- each system is unique in some way. So
- 3 I think they are all different.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Which Federal Government entities have
- 6 real-time access to TSDB information?
- 7 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the
- 8 answer would call for information protected by the
- 9 law enforcement privilege. You can answer to the 10 extent you can.
- 11 THE WITNESS: So, generally, the
- 12 Department of Homeland Security, the State
- 13 Department we have already talked about; the FBI,
- 14 including NCIC. I think that covers -- I think that
- 15 covers most of them. Of course, there are
- 13 covers most of them. Of course, there a
- 16 subcomponents to some of those.
- 17 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 18 O. To DHS?
- 19 A. Including DHS.
- 20 Q. Does USCIS have real-time access to TSDB
- 21 information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the

Conducted on March 1, 2018

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1 answer would call for information protected by the 1 instar

- 2 law enforcement privilege. You can answer to the
- 3 extent that you can.
- 4 THE WITNESS: I believe so.
- 5 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 6 Q. Does CBP have real-time access to TSDB 7 information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the answer would call for information protected by the law enforcement privilege. You can answer to the textent You can.
- 12 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 13 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 14 Q. Does TSC -- I am sorry. Does TSA have 15 real-time access to TSDB information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection --
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- MS. KONKOLY: -- insofar as the answer 19 would call for information protected by either the 20 law enforcement privilege or SSI. You can answer to 21 the extent that you can.
- THE WITNESS: Yes.

BY MR. ABBAS:

- Q. Do any foreign government have real-time access to TSDB information?
- 4 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the
- 5 answer would call for information protected by
- 6 either the law enforcement privilege or the state
- 7 secrets privilege. You can answer to the extent
- 8 that you can.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Define for me in the case 10 what you mean by real-time access.
- 11 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 12 Q. Maybe it is time to kind of talk about
- 13 that. Some Federal Government agencies have access
- 14 to -- the TSDB is always changing, correct?
- 15 A. That's correct.
- 16 Q. While we have been doing this deposition, 17 it has changed?
- 18 A. It is likely true.
- 19 Q. And it will change tomorrow and the day 20 after and it changes everyday, correct?
- 21 A. That's correct.
- 22 Q. My understanding is that some agencies

- 1 instantaneously have access to the changes that TSC
- 2 makes to TSDB information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. That's not a question.
- BY MR. ABBAS:
 - Q. Is that correct. That's the question.
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the
- 8 answer to that question would call for information
- 9 protected by the law enforcement privilege. You can 10 answer to the extent that you can.
- 11 THE WITNESS: Yes, that's correct. Some
- 12 U.S. Government agencies have what we would call
- 13 transactional -- it is updated transactionally. We
- 14 make a change in the TSDB. And it is reflected in
- 15 their system in a matter of seconds or maybe 16 minutes.
- 17 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 18 Q. Got it. What do you call that type of 19 access?
- 20 A. I say that systems are updated 21 transactionally, but I don't -- I don't have a word 22 associated with the access for that. It is a

1 transactional update.

202

- Q. So some agencies have like ongoing
- 3 continuously updated access to TSDB information,
- 4 correct?

5 A. That's correct.

- 6 Q. Does the Department of State have ongoing 7 access to the updates that get made to TSDB
- 8 information?
- 9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the 10 answer calls for information protected by the law
- 11 enforcement privilege. You can answer to the extent 12 you can.
- 13 THE WITNESS: I believe the Department of 14 State's system updates transactionally.
- 15 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 16 Q. And by transactionally you mean that the 17 Department of State receives updates about changes 18 to the TSDB in close to real time?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Do U.S. consulates and embassies receive 21 access -- I am sorry. Do -- does the TSC provide
- 22 consulates and embassies with real-time access to

204

51 (201 to 204)

52 (205 to 208)

Conducted on March 1, 2018 207 1 changes made to the TSDB? 1 want. MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the 2 THE WITNESS: No, I think it is not -- we 3 answer calls for information protected by the law don't export information to the United Nations. enforcement. You can answer to the extent you can. 4 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. Does TSC export any TSDB information to THE WITNESS: I honestly don't know. I know what we give to big State Department. What any United Nations-affiliated agencies? MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the they do downstream with that, I don't know. BY MR. ABBAS: answer would call for information protected by the 8 9 Q. Is it up to them what they do with the 9 law enforcement privilege. You can answer to the 10 real-time access that you provide to the Department 10 extent that you can. Also, vague. THE WITNESS: Yeah. How do you define 11 of State? 12 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 12 the United Nations-associated agency. BY MR. ABBAS: 13 BY MR. ABBAS: 13 Q. We will put a little -- we will come back 14 Q. I am sorry. Let me be a little more 15 clearer. Does -- is it up to the Department of 15 to it. Does TSC disseminate TSDB information to the 16 State what access they provide to the near real-time 16 UN Refugee agency? 17 updates that TSC makes available to the Department MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the 18 information would call for -- I'm sorry -- insofar 18 of State? 19 as the answer would call for information protected 19 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 20 by the law enforcement privilege. You can answer to 20 Objection insofar as the answer calls for 21 the extent that you can. 21 information protected by the law enforcement 22 privilege. You can answer to the extent you can. THE WITNESS: No. 206 208 THE WITNESS: Yes. The State Department 1 BY MR. ABBAS: would discern what their internal access rules look Q. Does TSC have any information about like and how often remote foreign post systems are whether or not the UN refugee agency has any type of 4 updated, so yes. access to TSDB information? 5 BY MR. ABBAS: MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the Q. Does TSC know -- well, first, does TSC answer would call for information protected by the provide near real-time access to TSDB updates to the law enforcement privilege. You can answer to the United Nations? extent that you can. 9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the --9 THE WITNESS: No. 10 objection that that question calls for information 10 BY MR. ABBAS: 11 protected by the law enforcement privilege. And I Q. Is TSC able to testify today that the UN 12 am going to instruct the witness not to answer. I 12 refugee agency has no access at all to TSDB 13 will revise that. I will say if you feel you can 13 information? 14 answer without waiving a privilege, you can answer MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the 15 that. 15 answer would call for information protected by the 16 law enforcement privilege. Objection. Vague. 16 BY MR. ABBAS: 17 Objection. Mischaracterizes prior testimony. You 17 Q. Let me try making it --18 can answer to the extent that you can. A. So I think I can - well -18

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MR. ABBAS: Do you want to confer? We

MR. ABBAS: We can just step out if you

MS. KONKOLY: Do you want to confer or --

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22

20 can leave.

THE WITNESS: Not that I am aware of.

Q. So is it possible that the UN refugee

22 agency has some type of access to the TSDB?

BY MR. ABBAS:

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211

53 (209 to 212)

MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the

2 answer calls for information protected the law

3 enforcement privilege. Objection. Calls for

4 speculation. Objection. Vague.

THE WITNESS: I can't testify to what I

6 don't have any insight or awareness into. We export our information. And, you know, I have no reason to

believe that they have access to that information.

BY MR. ABBAS:

10 Q. But you don't know what other people --11 but TSC does not know how recipients of TSDB 12 information further disseminate TSDB information, 13 correct?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Misleading. 14 15 Objection. Mischaracterizes prior testimony.

BY MR. ABBAS:

17 Q. All right. Fine. I will withdraw. Does 18 TSC know how recipients of TSDB information 19 disseminate the TSDB information those entities 20 receive?

21 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague, 22 compound. Objection insofar as it calls for

210

1 information protected by enforcement privilege. You

can answer to the extent that you can.

THE WITNESS: The TSC knows what was

4 agreed upon with any partner, whether it is foreign

5 or domestic. And certainly based on our

6 relationship with the intelligence community, I

7 think there's a good chance that if somebody were

doing so that we would know.

9 BY MR. ABBAS:

10 Q. What do you mean by there is a good 11 chance? Elaborate on what you mean there.

MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object that 12 13 that answer calls for information protected by the 14 law enforcement privilege and instruct the witness

15 not to answer that one.

BY MR. ABBAS: 16

Q. Can TSC definitively state which entities 17 18 receive TSDB information?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and 20 answered. Objection insofar as the answer would 21 call for information protected by law enforcement 22 privilege. You can answer.

BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. I am going to withdraw the question.

Does TSC know the names of all of the entities that

receive TSDB information globally?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and answered. Objection insofar as the answer would call for information protected by the law

8 enforcement privilege. You can answer to the extent

9 you can.

10 THE WITNESS: We know who we share the 11 information with. And we know what the agreement 12 governing further dissemination of that information 13 with that entity is.

14 BY MR. ABBAS:

15 Q. Does TSC -- has it ever happened where a 16 recipient of TSDB information has not followed its 17 agreement with TSC about the use of TSDB 18 information?

19 MS. KONKOLY: Objection as to scope. 20 Objection insofar as the answer would call for 21 information protected by the law enforcement 22 privilege. You can answer to the extent you know

212

1 and can do so without waiving the privilege.

THE WITNESS: I know of in my tenure one instance where we became aware of an improper

disclosure. We referred that to the partner agency.

And I believe that they have opened an investigation

6 into how that happened.

BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. The incident that you are referring to,

9 was it the improper disclosure of like a single 10 person's identity in the TSDB?

11 A. Yes.

Q. Which agency was that incident -- which 12 13 agency did that incident regard?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 15 would call for the law enforcement information 16 protected by law enforcement privilege. You can 17 answer to the extent that you can.

THE WITNESS: I don't believe I can say 19 without -- there is an ongoing investigation.

BY MR. ABBAS: 20

21 Q. When was the -- so the incident that you 22 are describing was a misuse of TSDB information in

Conducted on March 1, 2018

TSDB's view, correct?

- A. Yes. It was an improper disclosure.
- 3 Who made the improper disclosure of TSDB information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. 5
- 6 MR. ABBAS: I don't need their name.
- Their title, their agency affiliation would be just 8 fine.
- 9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the 10 answer calls for information protected by the law 11 privilege, which based on the witness' prior answer
- 12 appears to be the case. However, I will allow an
- 13 answer if there's --
- THE WITNESS: That's thus the
- 15 investigation so I don't know. That's why there is 16 an ongoing investigation.
- 17 BY MR. ABBAS:
- O. When did this incident occur? 18
- 19 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the 20 answer would call for information protected by the 21 law enforcement privilege. You can answer if you
- 22 can.

A. Within the last several months. I don't know precisely.

- Q. Has there -- in the history of the TSDB 4 other than this incident that occurred in the last
- several months, is TSC aware of any other use of
- 6 TSDB information that is inconsistent with any
- agreements regarding the use of TSDB information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection as to the scope
- 9 of that question not being within the approved
- 10 topics for this deposition. Objection further to
- 11 the extent the answer would call for information
- 12 within the law enforcement privilege. You can
- 13 answer if you can.
- THE WITNESS: I am not aware of 15 additional examples.
- BY MR. ABBAS: 16
- Q. So there has only been one instance in 18 the history of the TSDB that TSC is aware of where 19 there has been an improper use of TSDB information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and 21 answered. Objection again as to scope and objection
- 22 as to whether -- to the extent that answer would

1 call for law enforcement-protected information. You

54 (213 to 216)

215

216

can answer if you can.

THE WITNESS: Not that I am aware of.

- 4 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. What measures does the TSC take to ensure that recipient -- let me start over. What measures
- does TSC take to ensure that entities who receive
- TSDB information comply with the terms of their
- 9 agreements regarding further dissemination of that 10 TSDB information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague and 12 compound. Further objection insofar as the answer
- 13 would call for information protected by the law
- 14 enforcement privilege. You can answer if you can. THE WITNESS: So through the nominations 15
- 16 and encounter process if we become aware as we have
- 17 contact with these agencies of something that does
- 18 not seem to be according to our agreement, then that
- 19 would cause us to make inquiry with that 20 organization.
- So we have in some cases daily --21
- 22 multiple times daily contact with many, although I

- 1 wouldn't say all, of the downstream or the watch
 - 2 listing nominators. So that provides -- that
 - 3 provides some level of understanding. There is also
 - 4 -- electronically between systems, there is a
- 5 reconciliation that is a technical thing to make
- 6 sure that our databases are synched, that the 7 information in their database reflects what it
- 8 should from what is in ours.
- 9 And beyond that, there is oversight over 10 this entire process on the part of inspectors
- 11 general, the General Accounting Office, the Privacy
- 12 and Civil Liberties Oversight Board. There are
- 13 often audits that are conducted across the watch
- 14 listing enterprise not restricted to any one
- 15 organization. And they have an oversight function 16 to ensure that the entire system from beginning to
- 17 end is functioning as agreed and as is appropriate.
- Q. Has TSC ever taken any actions to enforce 19 the terms of its agreements with entities that 20 receive TSDB information who are violating their 21 agreements with TSC?
- 22 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague and

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219

55 (217 to 220)

220

- 1 compound. Objection insofar as the information
- 2 calls -- I'm sorry -- as the answer calls for
- 3 information protected by the law enforcement
- 4 privilege. You can answer to the extent that you
- 5 can.
- 6 THE WITNESS: I think violations is a
- 7 very strong word. I think that this is a complex
- 8 process. And as we see here in this deposition,
- 9 terms are important and often misunderstood and
- 10 clarification is required. So I think there is
- 11 constant ongoing clarification, discussion,
- 12 adjusting to changing circumstances that goes on
- 13 across the entire enterprise. I am not aware of
- 14 something where I believe it would constitute a
- 15 violation of an intentional misuse of TSDB data.
- 16 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 17 Q. So the Terror Screening Center is not 18 aware of a single instance in which an agency has 19 misused TSDB information?
- 20 MS. KONKOLY: Objection.
- 21 Mischaracterized his prior testimony. Objection
- 22 insofar as the answer would call for information

- 1 Listing Advisory Council and go through the
- 2 aforementioned process to reconcile that.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
- 4 Q. And, ultimately, if there is a dispute,
- 5 the National Security Council resolves that?
 - A. That's correct.
 - Q. And the National Security Council has
- 8 never resolved a dispute regarding -- I am sorry,
- 9 let me ask that question. Has the National Security
- 10 Council ever resolved a dispute regarding the use of 11 TSDB information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 13 Objection as to scope. Objection insofar as the 14 answer would call for information protected by the
- 15 law enforcement privilege. You can answer to the
- 16 extent you know and can do so without waiving any
- 17 privilege.
- 18 THE WITNESS: Not to -- not to my 19 knowledge and certainly not recently if it ever did 20 happen.
- 21 MR. ABBAS: Indiana.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:

218

- 1 protected by the law enforcement privilege. You can
- 2 answer if you can.
- THE WITNESS: Again, I have a hard time
- 4 with the word misused. I think there is often
- 5 clarification needed on what we or one of our
- 6 partners is doing, how we interact. But you are
- 7 implying certain nefarious activity in there. And
- 8 as far as something I would describe as nefarious,
- 9 not liking the word misused, I would say no.
- 10 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 11 Q. Has TSC ever withheld TSDB information
- 12 from an entity that would otherwise receive TSDB
- 13 information as a result of how that entity was
- 14 utilizing TSDB information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 16 Objection as to scope. Objection insofar as the
- 17 answer would call for any information protected by
- 18 the law enforcement privilege. You can answer to
- 19 the extent that you know and can do so.
- 20 THE WITNESS: I think those kind of 21 disagreements to take a sanction against a partner
- 22 like that would require us to go to the Watch

- 1 Q. Has the Watch List Advisory Council -- is
- 2 it the Watch Listing Advisory Council or Watch List
- 3 Advisory Council?
- 4 A. Watch Listing.
 - Q. Oh, Watching Listing, okay. Has the
- 6 Watch Listing Advisory Council ever made a decision
- regarding the -- I am sorry.
- 8 MR. ABBAS: Can you read back my last
- 9 question?
- 10 (The record was read.)
- 11 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 12 Q. Has the Watch Listing Advisory Council
- 13 ever resolved a dispute regarding the use of TSDB
- 14 information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and
- 16 answered. Objection as to scope, both temporarily
- 17 and now insofar as the topics for this deposition
- 18 are defined. Also objection as to the information
- 19 calling or the question calling for information
- 20 within the purview of another agency. Objection
- 21 insofar as the answer calls for information
- 22 protected by law enforcement privilege. You can

56 (221 to 224)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

221 223 1 answer to the extent you can. 1 going to keep it with ever, then. MS. KONKOLY: Okay. THE WITNESS: Again, the word dispute is 3 strong. I think constantly the Watch Listing MR. ABBAS: I don't remember the 4 Advisory Council is the venue for discussion around 4 question. Can you read back the question? 5 any number of issues. Whether or not -- I don't (The record was read.) 6 know if you would describe them as disputes or not. MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. And I 7 But there are certainly things that need to be will also add objection insofar as it calls for information protected by the deliberative process 8 settled constantly. And so the Watch Listing 9 Advisory Council frequently is the body -- is the 9 privilege. You can answer if you can. 10 venue to resolve those disputes or discussions. 10 THE WITNESS: The Watch Listing Advisory 11 Dispute might be too strong a word. 11 Council -- I mean, I don't know exactly how you 12 define a dispute. But that's the job of the Watch 12 BY MR. ABBAS: 13 Listing Advisory Council. And it does it every time Q. Has there ever been a dispute regarding 13 14 -- every time it meets to come to consensus on --14 the use of TSDB information that the Watch Listing 15 Advisory Council has resolved? 15 you could call it a dispute, a suggestion, a MS. KONKOLY: Objection as to scope. 16 proposal, different points of view. It does all of 16 17 Temporally that is not within the topics that have 17 those things quite consistently and actively. 18 been approved by the court for a discussion in BY MR. ABBAS: 18 19 today's deposition. Objection insofar as the 19 Q. How does the -- the Watch Listing 20 information would call for -- as that answer would 20 Advisory Council makes decisions, correct? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 21 call for any information protected by the law 21 22 enforcement privilege. You can answer if you can. 22 THE WITNESS: It's -- effectively, yes. 222 224 MR. ABBAS: And just for the record, 1 Yes. 2 category four is measures TSC undertakes to ensure BY MR. ABBAS: 3 accuracy and reliability of the TSDB. Certainly, Q. How does the Watch Listing Advisory Council memorialize its decisions? 4 controls that TSDB places on the usage of TSDB 5 information bear on the accuracy and reliability of MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the answer would call for information protected by 6 the TSDB itself. 7 either the deliberative process or the law MS. KONKOLY: Well, to clarify, that 8 objection goes to your use of the word ever. My 8 enforcement privilege. You can answer to the extent 9 objections have been stated for the record and they 9 you can. 10 10 stand. You can answer to the extent you can. BY MR. ABBAS: MR. ABBAS: Is your objection -- like is 11 Q. I am asking for just the decisions. Like 12 your temporal objection because I am asking for too 12 are they written on a chalkboard? Do you have a 13 long a time frame? 13 Gchat? I mean, what is it? Is there a bulletin 14 board? How does the Watch Listing Advisory Council 14 MS. KONKOLY: Yes, ever. MR. ABBAS: Fair enough. What time 15 memorialize the decisions that it makes? That's 15 16 frame works for you? 16 all. 17 MS. KONKOLY: I might need --17 MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. And you 18 can answer to the extent that you can. MR. ABBAS: Ten years. You guys do 10 18 19 years? Can I give you 10 years? 19 THE WITNESS: So after each meeting, MS. KONKOLY: I am not sure we can do 10 20 there is a statement of conclusions prepared. 21 years. I am not sure I can give you an answer. 21 MR. ABBAS: Arizona. 22 MR. ABBAS: I am going to do -- so I am 22 THE WITNESS: I almost said Arizona for

2

57 (225 to 228)

227

228

1 you. But I thought counsel would slap me around.

BY MR. ABBAS: 2

3

6

Q. What is it called? What is it?

Statements of conclusion?

A. Statement of conclusion.

Q. Statement of conclusion.

A. And periodically the Watch Listing

Guidance is updated. And we have previously --

Q. We have covered that.

10 A. There you go.

Q. How many statements of conclusion has --12 well, how many times a year does -- let's take 2017.

13 How many times in 2017 did the Watch Listing

14 Advisory Council meet?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 16 call for information protected by the law

17 enforcement privilege. You can answer if you can.

THE WITNESS: I would say generally

19 quarterly. I don't remember specifically.

20 Quarterly, sometimes more frequently.

BY MR. ABBAS: 21

22 So at least -- at least multiple times a

1 year?

2 A. Yes.

Q. And I have asked this, but I just can't

4 remember the answer. The Watch Listing Advisory

Council has existed since at least 2009?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and 6 7 answered.

BY MR. ABBAS:

9 Q. And I could be wrong.

10 A. I believe so. I believe so.

Q. Okay. It has existed for at least the 11

12 last five years?

A. Yes. 13

Q. Okay. And during those five years the 15 Watch Listing Advisory Council -- each of those five 16 years it has met multiple times?

17 A. Yes.

Q. And each time the Watch Listing Advisory 18

19 Council meets, it issues a statement of conclusion?

A. It certainly has since I have been there. 21 And I have reason — as far as I know, it did prior

22 to that.

MR. ABBAS: Arizona.

BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. What kinds of things are in these

statement of conclusions?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

Objection insofar as it calls for information

protected by either the deliberative process

privilege or the law enforcement privilege. You can

answer to the extent that you can.

10 THE WITNESS: Topics discussed, consensus 11 reached, do-outs, report-backs from various 12 participants.

13 BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Are you -- is the Terror Screening Center

15 aware of any Watch Listing Advisory Council

16 statement of conclusions that regards the -- I am

17 sorry. I am going to start that question over

18 again. When the Watch Listing Advisory Council

19 issues a statement of conclusion, are the member

20 agencies of the Watch Listing Advisory Council bound

21 to follow the substance of those conclusions?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

226

1 Objection insofar as the information -- the answer

2 calls for information protected by the law

3 enforcement privilege or a legal conclusion. And I

4 will also note an objection to scope. You can

answer if you can.

THE WITNESS: I think because those 6

7 decisions are reached by consensus, it is understood

8 that that is the agreement. And if somebody wants

9 to revisit that agreement, there's the

10 aforementioned processes to do so.

11 BY MR. ABBAS:

12 Q. So is the Terror Screening Center's

13 testimony that the member agencies that comprise the

14 Watch Listing Advisory Council adhere to the

15 substance of the Watch Listing Advisory Council's

16 statements of conclusions?

17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection as to the extent 18 that information calls for information within the

19 purview of other agencies Mr. Groh cannot bind.

20 Objection. Vague. Objection insofar as the

21 information calls for any information protected by

22 the law enforcement privilege. You can answer to

229 1 the extent that you can. THE WITNESS: Yes. If it has been 3 concluded by the council, that means it was at that 4 point without dissent. And so my expectation would 4 5 be that that's what we would follow until -- unless 6 and until we ever revisited the issue. BY MR. ABBAS: Q. Does the Terror Screening Center maintain 9 a record of all of the statements of conclusions 10 that the Watch Listing Advisory Council has issued? A. I believe so. 11 12 Q. Have any of those statement of 13 conclusions that the Watch Listing Advisory Council 13 be reflected by the year. 14 has issued regard tightening or loosening the TSDB's 14 15 inclusion standard? MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 16 17 information calls for information protected by 18 either the law enforcement privilege or the state 19 secrets privilege potentially SSI. Objection 20 insofar as the information is within the purview of 21 other agencies. You can answer to the extent that 22 you can. 230 THE WITNESS: I believe that it is likely that they do. 3 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. So there have been Watch Listing Advisory 5 Council statement of conclusions that regard 6 loosening or tightening the TSDB's inclusion 7 standards? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. 9 Mischaracterizes prior testimony. Objection. Same 10 objections insofar as the answer would implicate 11 information protected by the law enforcement, 12 potentially the state secrets or SSI privileges. 13 You can answer if you can.

231 1 permissive? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. Objection insofar as the answer --THE WITNESS: Yeah, it was vague. Describe which way you mean permissive to be. BY MR. ABBAS: O. So the number of nominations to the TSDB 8 varies by year, correct? A. Yes. 10 Q. And the number of nominations accepted by 11 TSC varies by year, correct? 12 A. Yes. It varies all the time, but it can O. Has TSC ever made it -- has TSC ever 15 taken actions that would produce a higher nomination 16 acceptance rate by making the TSDB inclusion 17 standards more permissive? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 19 Objection insofar as the answer calls for 20 information protected by the law enforcement 21 privilege and state secrets privilege. You can 22 answer if you can. 232 THE WITNESS: So you mean -- you mean to -- I take it you mean to raise or lower the bar. You mean to lower the bar for nominations. Is that what you are saying? BY MR. ABBAS: Q. To make more permissive would be lowering the bar. To make less permissive would be raising the bar. 9 MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. 10 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. So let me -- with that understanding, let 12 me ask the question again. I think now -- I think 13 now we are on the same page. Has TSC taken any 14 actions that would make the inclusion process more 15 permissive? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 17 Objection insofar as the answer would call for any Q. Has the TSDB inclusion standard ever been 18 information protected by the law enforcement or

19 potentially state secrets privileges. You can

THE WITNESS: So I think we already

22 described changes that were made circa 2009 with

20 answer to the extent you can.

BY MR. ABBAS:

MS. KONKOLY: Objection.

16 Guidance or both.

18 tightened?

19

20

Q. I'm sorry. Let me rephrase. Has the 21

22 TSDB inclusion standard ever been made more

THE WITNESS: I believe it would be

15 reflected there or in an update to the Watch Listing

59 (233 to 236) Conducted on March 1, 2018 235 1 regard to exceptions to the reasonable suspicion what we said earlier, I don't think I can answer 2 standard. And to me that would fall into the 3 category that you just described. So I think the 3 MR. ABBAS: Okay. So the number of times 4 answer is yes. is also covered by the law enforcement privilege and the state secrets privilege? 5 BY MR. ABBAS: MS. KONKOLY: That's the objection on the Q. Has TSC ever made the inclusion process 6 6 less permissive? record. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 8 MR. ABBAS: Okay. I am just making sure. 9 Objection insofar as the answer would call for 9 BY MR. ABBAS: 10 information protected by the law enforcement and 10 Q. Does TSC export TSDB information to 11 potentially state secrets privilege. You can answer 11 entities that do not maintain near real-time access 12 if you can. 12 to TSDB information updates and changes? 13 THE WITNESS: In other words, made --13 MS. KONKOLY: I am sorry. Objection. 14 Vague. Objection. Compound. Objection insofar as 14 raised the bar to go back to our previous. I don't 15 think I can get into a great deal of specificity, 15 the answer calls for information protected by the 16 enforcement privilege. You can answer if you can. 16 but I believe the answer to that is also yes. 17 BY MR. ABBAS: 17 THE WITNESS: Yes, there are entities 18 that do not receive a transactional update. 18 Q. When has the Terror Screening Center made BY MR. ABBAS: 19 the inclusion process less permissive? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 20 Q. So what happens when TSC exports TSDB 20 21 Objection insofar as the answer calls for 21 information to an entity that does not receive 22 information protected by either the law enforcement 22 transactional updates to the TSDB and then there are 236 1 or the state secrets privilege potentially. You can transactional updates to the TSDB? 2 answer if you can. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. THE WITNESS: I don't believe I can Objection. Compound. Objection insofar as the 3 answer calls for information protected by the law 4 answer that. enforcement privilege. You can answer if you can. 5 MS. KONKOLY: Okay. MR. ABBAS: You can't provide it. What's THE WITNESS: So those cumulative changes 6 7 the basis of the privilege assertion regarding the 7 that you are referring to would be updated the next 8 date as to when the inclusion process was made less 8 time that that export is periodically updated. That permissive? What privilege are being asserted? 9 actually used to be true of many more, if not all of MS. KONKOLY: Law enforcement, state 10 10 our exports. And over time, more and more of them 11 secrets potentially. They are both on the record 11 have become transactional at some of the 12 and they stand. 12 improvements we have made to the system along the 13 BY MR. ABBAS: 13 way. 14 So TSC's goal -- is it -- is it TSC's Q. Fine. What is -- how many times has the 15 Terror Screening Center made the inclusion process 15 goal to provide TSDB recipients with near real-time 16 access to changes that get made to the TSDB? 16 less permissive? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 17

> BY MR. ABBAS: 20

Q. But there are entities who do not receive 21 22 near real-time information regarding updates to the

THE WITNESS: I agree that would be

18

19 ideal.

18 Objection insofar as the answer would call for

19 information protected by the law enforcement or

20 potentially the state secrets privilege. Answer if

THE WITNESS: I think in keeping with

21 you can.

60 (237 to 240)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

237 239 TSDB, correct? 1 information protected by the law enforcement or MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. potentially the state secrets privilege. You can Objection. Asked and answered. answer if you can. 4 THE WITNESS: Yes. 4 THE WITNESS: No. 5 BY MR. ABBAS: BY MR. ABBAS: Q. Are there domestic entities that do not Q. So every foreign government that receives receive near real-time updates to changes that get TSDB information has an agreement with TSC regarding made in the TSDB? the dissemination of TSDB information? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. A. Every recipient of information has an 10 Objection. Asked and answered. Objection insofar 10 agreement with the United States Government. 11 as the answer would call for information protected Q. Okay. So it might not be with the Terror 12 by the law enforcement privilege. You can answer if 12 Screening Center. It could be with the U.S. 13 you can. 13 Government? 14 THE WITNESS: I don't believe there are 14 A. Correct. 15 domestic entities that don't have transactional 15 O. Who would -- who in the U.S. Government 16 updates anymore. 16 is signing these agreements, if not, TSC? 17 MR. ABBAS: Indiana. 17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. BY MR. ABBAS: 18 18 Objection insofar as that question calls for Q. So TSC's testimony today is that all 19 information within the purview of other agencies. 20 domestic entities that receive TSDB information are 20 You can testify as to your understanding, but that 21 receiving that information in near real time to 21 answer will not bind the agency. And objection 22 reflect changes to the TSDB? 22 insofar as the question calls for information 240 238 protected by any law enforcement privilege. You can MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 2 Objection. Asked and answered. Objection insofar answer if you can. 3 as any additional answer would call for information 3 THE WITNESS: I don't know if we need to 4 protected by the law enforcement privilege. You can confer on that. I am not sure. answer if you can. MS. KONKOLY: Okay. THE WITNESS: Yes. MR. ABBAS: Do you want us to leave? I 6 6 BY MR. ABBAS: could use like a five-minute break. Q. Do all foreign governments receive near MS. KONKOLY: Okay. We will take a 9 real-time access to the updates and changes to TSDB? 9 five-minute break. 10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 10 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the 11 Objection insofar as the answer calls for 11 record. The time is 3:01 p.m. 12 information protected by the law enforcement or 12 (A recess was held.) 13 potentially state secrets privilege. You can answer THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the 14 if you can. 14 record. The time is 3:12 p.m. And we have been on 15 THE WITNESS: No. 15 the record for 4 hours and 15 minutes. 16 BY MR. ABBAS: 16 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. Does -- I am sorry. Does TSC disseminate 17 Q. Does TSC have any information that any 18 information to foreign governments in the absence of 18 non-governmental entities receives in any way access 19 an agreement with that foreign government regarding 19 to TSDB information? 20 the dissemination and use of TSDB information? MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 21 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 21 -- objection. Vague. Objection insofar as the 22 information calls for -- that answer calls for 22 answer calls for information protected by law

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1

1 enforcement or SSI privileges. You can answer to

2 the extent you can. I will also interpose that I

3 believe that question has been asked and answered.

THE WITNESS: I am sorry. Repeat that 4 one more time for me.

MR. ABBAS: Can you read it back. 6

7 (The record was read.)

THE WITNESS: I am trying to determine

9 what the word access means in this question. For

10 instance, when you describe TSA, you know, and

11 denials of boardings on aircraft, obviously an

12 airline is aware that one of their passengers has to

13 some degree been denied boarding. So I don't know

14 what you mean. You mean the ability to search TSDB

15 information or that could be in some downstream

16 process somehow?

Q. Both. So, yeah, I would agree with you 18 that the airlines have some kind of access to TSDB

19 information, because certainly when a boarding press

20 printing result doesn't issue because of a person's

21 status on the No-Fly List, the airline gets that

22 indication whether or not the passenger does. But

1 beyond airlines, what other non-governmental

2 entities receive access to information -- I am

3 sorry. What other non-airline -- I am sorry. Aside

4 from airlines, what other non-governmental entities

5 receive access of any kind to TSDB information?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 6

7 Objection. Compound. Objection insofar as that

8 information calls -- that answer calls for

9 information protected by the law enforcement

10 privilege. You can answer to the extent you can.

THE WITNESS: Outside the example we have

12 excluded, I am not aware of any.

BY MR. ABBAS: 13

Q. Do -- are there other non-governmental --15 are there other non-governmental entities who learn 16 of TSDB information via the utilization of TSDB

17 information?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

19 Objection insofar as the answer would call for

20 information protected by the law enforcement

21 privilege. You can answer to the extent that you

22 can.

THE WITNESS: Again, subject to just -- I

61 (241 to 244)

243

244

think it is the same as the previous answer. Not

that I am aware of, excluding some interaction with

4 airlines. And even in that case, I would say that

5 the example you described with a boarding pass or

6 such that there are other ways that somebody can

7 receive additional screening or be denied boarding.

8 So, you know, that information is used in that case.

9 And I think often people assume they know what's

10 going on. But it is sometimes more complicated than

11 that. But subject to that exclusion, none that I am 12 aware of.

BY MR. ABBAS: 13

14 Q. Federal Government employees have access 15 to TSDB information, correct?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Misleading. 16

17 Objection. Vague.

18 BY MR. ABBAS:

19 O. Let me -- it's not a trick question.

20 There are some Federal Government employees that

21 have access to TSDB information, correct?

22 Yes.

242

Q. Are there contractors to the Federal

Government who are not Federal Government employees

who also have access to TSDB information?

Yes.

5 Are there contractors at TSC who are not

employees of TSC who have access to TSDB

information?

A. I would call them contract employees of

9 TSDB. But yes, they are contractors, not Federal

10 Government employees.

O. They are not -- so there are

12 non-employees that TSC -- I am sorry. There are

13 persons who are not TSC -- I am sorry. Let me start

14 over again. There are persons who work for

15 companies that contract with the Federal Government

16 who have access via their employer to TSDB

17 information?

18 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

19 Objection. Asked and answered.

THE WITNESS: They work -- I wouldn't say

21 they have -- they have access because their employer

22 has a contract. But they don't have access via

62 (245 to 248)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

247 their own employer. They have access because they BY MR. ABBAS: work at the TSC. Q. How long has TSC had an agreement with 3 BY MR. ABBAS: STOPSO? 3 Q. Which companies does -- which contracting A. The current contract is, I believe, in companies does TSC have agreements with? its fourth year. There may - I believe that STOPSO MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that has for some time before that. But I don't know 6 question calls for information protected by the law 7 offhand exactly when their first interaction with enforcement privilege. But you can answer if you 8 TSC was. I believe there was a period before the 9 current contract. But the current one is in the 10 THE WITNESS: It is what it is. 10 fourth year. BY MR. ABBAS: 11 11 Q. In the fourth year? 12 Q. It is what it is. 12 A. Yes. A. So yeah, I think that's the prime – the Q. Got it. How much does TSC pay STOPSO? 13 13 14 two primary companies. One called STOPSO. MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 14 Q. Can you spell that? 15 15 question calls for information protected by the law A. That's their acronym S-T-O-P-S-O. The 16 enforcement privilege or proprietary information. 16 17 second would be Sotera Defense. 17 But you can answer to the extent that you can. 18 Q. Can you spell that? MR. ABBAS: So hold on. I want to 19 A. S-O-T-E-R-A. 19 understand the objections. So the amount of money Q. S-O? 20 20 that TSC spends on STOPSO is proprietary 21 A. T-E-R-A, I believe. 21 information? 22 STOPSO and Sotera? 22 MS. KONKOLY: I don't know if it is. I 248 246 1 am raising the potential objection and allowing the 1 A. Yes. Q. I'm sorry. Go ahead. witness to instruct if he can or to answer if he 3 A. No, go ahead. 3 can. Q. No, no, no. Please. 4 MR. ABBAS: Are you instructing him not 5 5 A. No, no. I am good. Q. Is STOPSO an acronym or is that just like 6 6 MS. KONKOLY: No. MR. ABBAS: -- to provide proprietary a cute name? information? A. I am trying to remember exactly. It's strategic -9 MS. KONKOLY: I did not make an 10 Q. Oh, you think it is an acronym? 10 instruction not to answer. I said you can answer to 11 the extent that you can. 11 A. I think it is an acronym, ves. 12 Q. Got it. Strategic Operation Solutions? 12 MR. ABBAS: And I want to understand the 13 law enforcement privilege assertion. Why was --That sounds right. 13 Q. Is STOPSO a U.S. company? MS. KONKOLY: It was to the extent that. 14 A. Yes. 15 And I am telling the witness that he can answer to 15 Q. Is Sotera a U.S. company? 16 the extent that he can. 16 17 A. Yes. 17 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. How long has TSC had a contract with 18 18 Q. Sure. Okay. 19 STOPSO? Well, I am sorry. Let me back up. Does 19 A. I don't -- I don't recall exactly what --20 TSC have an agreement with STOPSO? 20 I don't manage the contract, per se. And I don't A. Yes. 21 recall exactly what -- what we are paying them in 21 22 MR. ABBAS: Arizona. 22 any given period of time.

Conducted on March 1, 2018

63 (249 to 252)

249 251 Q. Is it millions of dollars? 1 Center Headquarters? 2 A. Yes. A. And one other small site. 3 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 3 O. Where is that other small site? speculation. 4 A. I don't think I can say. BY MR. ABBAS: MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 5 6 answer calls for information protected by the law Q. Is it over \$10 million? MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object again enforcement privilege. 8 that this calls for speculation. I am also going to BY MR. ABBAS: 9 note that these questions are outside the scope of Q. Is that other site a Terror Screening 10 the protective order entered by the court. I will 10 Center office? 11 allow the witness to answer this question. But if MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the 11 12 this proceeds too much further, I have to --12 answer would call for information protected by the MR. ABBAS: These are dissemination 13 13 law enforcement privilege. You can answer if you 14 questions. The size of the contract bears on how 14 can. 15 many people STOPSO has working -- STOPSO. 15 THE WITNESS: Yes. MS. KONKOLY: Objection stands. You can 16 BY MR. ABBAS: 16 17 answer to the extent that you can. 17 Q. What is your best estimate of how many THE WITNESS: I believe it is likely more 18 contractors work out of the TSC Headquarters in 19 than \$10 million. Beyond that, I would be wildly 19 Vienna, Virginia whether they work ultimately for 20 STOPSO or one of the subcontractors of STOPSO? 20 speculating. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Compound. 21 BY MR. ABBAS: 22 Are all these STOPSO contractors located 22 Objection. Calls for speculation. 252 250 1 at the Terror Screening Center's headquarters in THE WITNESS: Approximately 300. 1 Vienna, Virginia? 2 BY MR. ABBAS: A. Yes. Every one that we employ from O. There's 300 STOPSO contractors or STOPSO 3 4 STOPSO would work at TSC. subcontractors that work at the Terror Screening Q. How many contractors from -- how many Center? 6 contractors from STOPSO are working at the Terror 6 A. 300 STOPSO contractors or Sotera. Screening Center's headquarters in Vienna, Virginia? Q. So you are not sure how many -- is it MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for about half and half between STOPSO and Sotera? 9 speculation. 9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 10 THE WITNESS: First, let me clarify. 10 speculation. 11 There is one other -- there is -- the contract calls 11 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I couldn't tell you. 12 for them to also work at one other site beyond the 12 BY MR. ABBAS: 13 TSC in Vienna. So there is one additional. Beyond Q. I mean, is it -- like is it really 14 that, I can't tell you -- I don't know exactly how 14 lopsided where STOPSO has three people and Sotera 15 many of the contractors work for STOPSO. They also 15 has 297 people? Is it split somewhere down -- I 16 have arrangements with some subcontractors through 16 mean, give me what your sense is. 17 that arrangement that I really don't know a lot of 17 MS. KONKOLY: Calls for speculation. 18 particulars about. They all work at the TSC. 18 THE WITNESS: My sense, which is an BY MR. ABBAS: 19 19 estimate, is it is maybe two thirds STOPSO or Q. So TSC contracts with STOPSO, and then 20 subcontractors and about one third Sotera. Sotera 21 STOPSO contracts with other people. And they all 21 handles IT development. STOPSO handles most other 22 are in Vienna, Virginia at the Terror Screening 22 things.

255

256

64 (253 to 256)

BY MR. ABBAS:

- 2 Q. What's -- what are those other things
- that STOPSO handles?
- A. They work together with the government
- 5 employees for all the things we have been talking about.
- O. Is a STOPSO -- are there STOPSO
- 8 contractors that can accept nominations on behalf of
- 9 TSC to the TSDB?
- 10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
- 11 question calls for information protected by the law
- 12 enforcement privilege. You can answer if you can.
- THE WITNESS: Not for U.S. persons. 13
- 14 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. So with regards to U.S. persons, the only 15 16 individuals who can accept the nomination of a U.S. 17 person to the TSDB are TSC employees, correct?
- A. Yes. I would say government employees 19 just to add that qualification. Some of our 20 personnel actually work for other government 21 agencies that are detailed to the TSC.
- Q. Got it. What else does -- what else do

- 1 nominations of U.S. persons to the TSDB?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection.
- Mischaracterizes his prior testimony. Objection as
- to scope of the approved topics for this deposition.
- You can answer to the extent you can.
- THE WITNESS: I think I just answered. I
- don't know that that role has always been the case.
- I know what it is now.
- MR. ABBAS: Indiana.
- 10 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Who made the rule that STOPSO contractors 12 cannot accept the nominations of U.S. persons to the 13 TSDB?
- 14 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
- 15 information -- as that question calls for
- 16 information protected by the law enforcement
- 17 privilege. You can answer to the extent that you
- 18 can.
- 19 THE WITNESS: I presume TSC management.
- 20 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. And you don't know when TSC management 21
- 22 made the decision to forbid STOPSO contractors from
- 254
- 1 STOPSO contractors do? I am sorry. Let me ask you 1
- 2 this. Why? Why is it that STOPSO contractors can
- 3 accept the nominations of non-U.S. persons to the
- 4 TSDB, whereas U.S.-person nominations can only be
- 5 accepted by Federal Government employees?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 6
- 7 answer would call for information protected by the
- 8 law enforcement privilege. But you can answer if
- 9 you can.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Well, I think it would
- 11 require me to draw a legal conclusion.
- 12 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Has that always been -- has it always
- 14 been the case that STOPSO contractors cannot accept
- 15 the nominations of U.S. persons to the TSDB?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection as to scope. 16
- THE WITNESS: I don't know if -- I don't 17
- 18 know if it has always -- if it never changed along 19 the way.
- 20 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Is it TSC's testimony today that STOPSO 21
- 22 contractors have never been able to accept the

- accepting U.S.-person TSDB nominations?
- A. It may have always been the case, so I don't know that it was decision.
- 4 MR. ABBAS: Sure. Indiana.
- BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Do the STOPSO -- I know -- so right now today, STOPSO contractors do not have the authority
- to accept TSDB nominations of U.S. persons, correct?
- 9 A. Not the final authority.
- Q. They can make a recommendation about 11 whether a nomination of a U.S. person to the TSDB 12 should be accepted?
- A. Effectively, yes. 13
- Q. Has -- what does Sotera do for the Terror 14 15 Screening Center?
- 16 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 17 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Well, hold on. Let me withdraw that 19 question. Sotera is a U.S. company that contracts
- 20 with the Terror Screening Center, correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 There is an agreement between Sotera and

258

259

260

65 (257 to 260)

- 1 the Terror Screening Center that governs the
- 2 services that Sotera provide TSC, correct?
- 3 A. Yes, the contract.
- Q. When did Sotera and TSC enter into a
- 5 contract?
- 6 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Scope. You can
- 7 answer if you know.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Most recently it was
- 9 sometime last year. And I believe they were the
- 10 incumbent. So it was awarded to them after a
- 11 competition. So they had -- they had a previous
- 12 contract. And I am not sure before that contract.
- 13 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 14 Q. When was the -- so as far as you know, 15 how long has Sotera and TSC been in a contract 16 together?
- 17 A. I would have to say at least likely six 18 years. It was probably a five-year period of 19 performance before. And it was re-competed last 20 year almost exactly a year, maybe a little bit more.
- 21 Q. What other companies competed for the 22 contract that Sotera competed for?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Scope. You can 1
- 2 answer if you know.
- THE WITNESS: I don't remember. I wasn't
- 4 on the selection.
- 5 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 6 Q. Who was on the Selection Committee?
- 7 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Scope.
- 8 Objection. Privacy Act.
- 9 THE WITNESS: I don't recall.
- BY MR. ABBAS:
- 11 Q. Yeah. And I don't want names. I really
- 12 don't. Was the -- who is the head of the Terror
- 13 Screening Center?
- 14 A. Charles Kable.
- 15 Q. Was Charles Kable involved with deciding 16 which company was going to provide the services that 17 Sotera ultimately provided to TSC?
- MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object. This 19 question is outside of the scope of the agreed-upon 20 topics. You can answer if you know.
- 21 THE WITNESS: I don't believe he was on 22 the Technical Review Committee. The folks actually

- 1 look at those contracts. I can't tell you if he had
- 2 some role in some final review of that. Also, who
- 3 would have been involved would have been our --
- 4 would have been the FBI's IT -- IT branch from a
- 5 technical perspective. So it is not entirely TSC.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
 - Q. Who -- so let's back up to STOPSO. Did
- 8 TSC decide to hire STOPSO?
- 9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Scope. You can 10 answer if you know.
- 11 MR. ABBAS: These are all dissemination 12 questions?
- MS. KONKOLY: And the objection stands.
- 14 He can answer if he knows.
- 15 THE WITNESS: I am not an expert on
- 16 procurement. It would have gone through, I think,
- 17 the departmental. So for Department of Justice, it 18 would have gone through Department of Justice
- 19 procurement and then ultimately the FBI procurement
- 20 process. Beyond that, I am not able to tell you. I
- 21 didn't participate in it.
- 22 MR. ABBAS: Indiana.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
 - Q. Who decided that TSC was worth a contract with Sotera?
- 4 MS. KONKOLY: Again, objection as to this
- 5 being outside of the scope of the designated topics.
- You can answer if you know.
- THE WITNESS: It would ultimately be
- 8 awarded by the contracting officer for that
- 9 particular contract.
- 10 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 11 Q. Who is the contracting officer for the
- 12 Sotera contract?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Privacy Act.
- 14 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 15 Q. I am not asking for a name. Just like --
- 16 I'm sorry. What agency was -- is the contracting
- 17 officer for the Sotera agreement employed by?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Scope. This is 19 not within the designated topics for this
- 20 deposition. You can answer if you happen to know.
- 21 THE WITNESS: I believe the FBI.
- 22 BY MR. ABBAS:

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1

1	Q. And the contracting officer, that's what	ıat
2	you called him or her?	

3 A. It is a term of art. It is a designated 4 position, yes.

- Q. And likely does the term of art mean that
- 6 that's the person who has the kind of final
- 7 authority to enter the agency into the contract?

8 A. I believe that's generally the case.

- 9 Q. And so with regards to the Sotera
- 10 contracts, there was an FBI contracting officer that
- 11 had the authority to enter TSC into that contract?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection as to scope. You
- 13 can answer if you happen to know.
- 14 THE WITNESS: I believe that's how it 15 works.
- 16 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 17 Q. With regard to the STOPSO contract, was 18 it also an FBI contracting officer who entered TSC
- 19 into the contract with STOPSO?
- 20 MS. KONKOLY: Objection as to scope. You
- 21 can answer if you know.
- THE WITNESS: That would be the normal
- 1 course of things. I have no reason to believe that
- 2 wouldn't have what happened.
- BY MR. ABBAS:Q. Why is the FBI deciding who TSC contracts
- 5 with?
- 6 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for
- 7 speculation. Objection as to this being outside of
- 8 the scope of the designated topics for this
- 9 deposition. Objection. Calls for a legal
- 10 conclusion. You can answer if you know.
- 11 THE WITNESS: The TSC is administered by
- 12 the FBI. And the TSC is not large enough to provide
- 13 all of those different services.
- 14 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 15 Q. How many employees does TSC have?

16 A. Do you mean government, contract, both?

- 17 Q. So you said that there is about 300
- 18 contractors that provide services to the Terror
- 19 Screening Center, correct?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. So let's put them to the side. How many

22 individuals does the Terror Screening Center employ?

A. Approximately 200 total individuals

66 (261 to 264)

263

264

2 outside of contractors.

- Q. And other agencies assign their employees
- to the Terror Screening Center like on detail. Is
- 5 that what the language is?

6 A. Fair enough, yes.

- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 8 THE WITNESS: And I included that in the
- 9 200.

10 BY MR. ABBAS:

- 11 Q. Oh, okay, okay. And I just want to -- I
- 12 am only talking about the people that -- when a
- 13 Terror Screening Center employee gets a check, like
- 14 their paycheck, does it say the Terror Screening
- 15 Center? Does it say Charles Kable on it?

16 A. No. Nobody is paid by the Terror 17 Screening Center.

- 18 Q. Who pays Terror Screening Center 19 employees?
- 20 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Outside of
- 21 scope. You can answer if you happen to know.
- 22 THE WITNESS: If -- well, their home

262 20 1 agency indicates. If they are an FBI employee, the

- 2 FBI. If they were a DHS employee, it would come
- 3 from whatever DHS component that they worked for.
- BY MR. ABBAS:
 - Q. Right. But Charles Kable is not on
- 6 assignment. You are not on assignment?

7 A. Uh-huh.

- 8 Q. You know, you are a Terror Screening
- 9 Center employee, correct?

10 A. My check says FBI.

- 11 Q. So for Terror Screening Center employees,
- 12 their checks say FBI?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Charles Kable's check says?

15 A. Would say FBI.

- 6 Q. Would say FBI. The persons at the Terror
- 17 Screening Center that accept nominations of U.S.
- 18 persons to the TSDB, do their checks as well say FBI 19 on them?

20 A. If they are FBI employees.

21 Q. So there are some persons who accept

22 nominations of U.S. -- I am going to start again. I

Conducted on March 1, 2018 1 am not going to. I am actually going to change 2 directions. Do STOPSO contractors have access to 3 TSDB information that regards U.S. persons in the 4 TSDB? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. vou can. 6 Objection insofar as the answer would call for 7 information protected by the law enforcement 8 privilege. You can answer if you can. THE WITNESS: Yes. 10 BY MR. ABBAS: 11 Q. Do Sotera employees - do Sotera 12 contractors have access to TSDB information 13 regarding U.S. persons on the TSDB there? 13 receive. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 14 15 Objection insofar as the answer calls for 15 16 information protected by the law enforcement 17 privilege. You can answer if you can. 17 in the TSDB? 18

THE WITNESS: Some would, yes.

BY MR. ABBAS: 19

O. Does TSC have a view as to whether TSDB 21 listees like being in the Terror Screening Center 22 database?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

Objection. Calls for speculation.

3 THE WITNESS: I almost don't know how to 4 answer that. Do they like being in the TSDB? One,

I don't -- if they know.

BY MR. ABBAS: 6

A. Then, sure, I could speculate that people might not like that idea.

Q. Why? Why does TSC believe that persons 10 11 in the TSDB would not like being in the TSDB?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 12

13 Objection. Calls for speculation.

THE WITNESS: I can think of a variety of 15 different reasons that people --

BY MR. ABBAS: 16

17 Q. I would like all of the reasons. I would 18 like all of the variety of reasons you can think of?

A. Okay. Then how much time have we got 19 20 left?

We will spend 20 minutes. 21 Q.

22 So I would say -- MS. KONKOLY: And let just put an

objection that that's vague and calls for

speculation. It is not within the scope of the

4 topics here. You can answer to the extent you feel

67 (265 to 268)

267

THE WITNESS: In the first instance, I 7 think someone that is involved in terrorism who is

8 trying to further whatever their ultimate aim is

9 would be disheartened to know that their -- that 10 they had been detected and that they might need --

11 you know, that their intentions might be thwarted by

12 virtue of the additional scrutiny that they may

BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. Are there any other reasons why TSC 16 believes a person on the TSDB would not like being

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. Calls 19 for speculation. Outside the scope. You can 20 answer.

THE WITNESS: Well, it is hard for me to 22 know what is in other people's minds as to what the

268

1 potential consequences of what they believe might or might not happen by virtue of being watch listed.

They might believe that it subjects them to all

4 kinds of potential surveillance. They might believe

that, you know, they could actually be followed,

6 might be arrested. Just any number of -- boy, the

hypotheticals are endless of what people might

believe from that.

9 BY MR. ABBAS:

O. Is -- the inclusion standard for the TSDB 11 is that there is reasonable suspicion that you are a 12 known or suspected terrorist; is that correct?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

14 Objection insofar as a complete answer would call

15 for information protected by the law enforcement

16 privilege. You can answer to the extent you can.

THE WITNESS: The standard to be a known 18 or suspected terrorist is reasonable suspicion,

19 which would include being on the TSDB.

20 BY MR. ABBAS:

21 Q. Is that a -- is that a positive

22 description of a person that they are reasonably

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1	suspected of being a known or suspected for
2	terrorist?

- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 3 speculation.
- THE WITNESS: I think it leaves open the
- 6 possibility that the information -- I take it, it's
- exactly what it means. It means the person is
- suspected. It is certainly not proof beyond a
- 9 reasonable doubt. It is not conclusive.
- 10 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. But you disseminate it to 60 foreign
- 12 partners and more than 100,000 people inside the
- 13 United States?
- 14 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Argumentative.
- 15 MR. ABBAS: That's fair. I withdraw the 16 question.
- 17 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Identify all the consequences that TSC is
- 19 aware of that are experienced by TSDB listees?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 20
- 21 speculation. Objection insofar as the answer
- 22 implicates information protected by law enforcement
- 1 privilege or SSI or any information within the
- 2 purview of another agency. You can answer to the
- 3 extent that you can.
- THE WITNESS: The consequences of being
- in TSDB, I don't know that any of them are
- 6 automatic. We pass it downstream to the partners,
- and then they make that decision thereafter. So I
- 8 can't say that as a consequence of being in TSDB
- 9 there is necessarily any consequence other than
- 10 reporting. And in many cases, individuals listed in
- 11 TSDB would be unaware of that.
- 12 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. I mean, you know, the screening agencies 14 clearly impose some type of consequence on persons 15 in the TSDB. And TSC has awareness of how some 16 agencies utilize TSDB information, correct?
- 17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection.
- THE WITNESS: Sure. But for --18
- MS. KONKOLY: Argumentative, not a
- 20 question. You can answer if you can.
- THE WITNESS: But for different 21
- 22 components. But you are saying just being listed in

- 1 the TSDB. So we understand selectee, right? But,
- 2 you know, people believe the consequences of that
- are. No fly what they believe the consequences of
- 4 that are. Those are subcomponents of the TSDB. But

68 (269 to 272)

271

- your question was for being part of TSDB in general.
- 6 And so I would say that there are no automatic
- consequences for being part of the TSDB in general.
- 8 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 9 Q. Does TSC have information about how 10 entities that receive TSDB information utilize the
- 11 disseminated TSDB information to the detriment of
- 12 TSDB listees?
- 13 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 14 Objection insofar as that question calls for
- 15 information within the purview of other agencies or
- 16 would then -- that would be protected by the law
- 17 enforcement privilege or SSI. You can answer to the
- 18 extent that you can.
- THE WITNESS: Well, I think it comes down
- 20 to what you mean by detriment. If you are a
- 21 terrorist, there are a lot of detriments to
- 22 intelligence being collected and reported back to
- 270 1 investigative agencies and intelligence agencies. I
 - think in -- for many individuals, they are likely
 - unaware of any TSDB status.
 - 4 BY MR. ABBAS:
 - Q. Is TSC aware of any consequences to
 - listees when their status as TSDB listees is
 - disseminated to other entities?
 - MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
 - 9 Objection insofar as that calls for information
 - 10 within the purview of other entities and/or insofar
 - 11 as the answer calls for information protected by the
 - 12 law enforcement privilege. You can answer to the

 - 13 extent you can. And if I didn't say vague, I want
 - 14 to make sure I got that.
 - 15 THE WITNESS: Certainly we are aware that
 - 16 TSA, for instance, subjects people to additional
 - 17 screening for a variety of reasons, one of which
 - 18 might be that they are listed on the selectee list.
 - 19 And boarding is denied as a consequence sometimes
 - 20 when it happens as a consequence of being on the
 - 21 No-Fly List. So with respect to those two
 - 22 components, yes, clearly State Department Customs

69 (273 to 276)

1	, 6
Conducted on	March 1, 2018
273	275
1 and Border Protection as they are doing their border	1 THE WITNESS: It is identifying
2 authorities would obviously use the fact that	2 information biographic and biometric information.
3 somebody is listed in TSDB to make further inquiry.	3 BY MR. ABBAS:
4 And they might make a decision based on that, that's	4 Q. And it does not contain any of the
5 triggered really by the pointer that somebody is	5 derogatory information that TSC relied upon to
6 included in TSDB.	6 accept the nomination to the TSDB, correct?
7 Q. Pointer. What do you mean pointer?	7 A. Correct.
8 A. That mere presence in the TSDB is not	8 Q. So when CBP does CBP so a secure
9 going to they will make their own determination	9 flight is TSA's way of matching TSDB information to
10 based on information. TSDB will help them find	10 passenger information, correct?
11 information. But mere presence in the TSDB does not	MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
12 have automatic consequences outside of the aviation	12 calls for information from the purview of TSA. You
13 security context for anyone with a possible	13 can answer to the extent you understand.
14 exception of if they have an active warrant.	14 THE WITNESS: I don't believe I can
15 Q. Does does TSC believe that USCIS, for	15 answer that one.
16 instance, adjudicates immigration applications	MS. KONKOLY: Okay.
17 differently with regards to TSDB listees than it	BY MR. ABBAS:
18 does with persons who are not TSDB listees?	18 Q. Does TSC understand is it TSC's
MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that	19 understanding that CBP utilizes TSDB information to
20 answer calls for information within the purview of	20 screen persons that cross U.S. borders?
21 CIS. You can answer to the extent that you know.	21 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
22 But your answer does not bind any other agency.	22 question calls for information within the purview of
274	276
1 And, also, insofar as it would call for any law	1 TSA. You can answer as to your understanding. The
2 enforcement-protected information, you can answer to	2 answer isn't binding.
3 the extent you can.	THE WITNESS: Yes, I believe that CBP
THE WITNESS: Fundamentally the answer is	4 uses TSDB information amongst lots of other
5 no. But I would go back to our effort to provide	5 information as they do border screening.
6 that common operating picture to make it easier for	6 BY MR. ABBAS:
7 them to discover information that they need to have	Q. I am sorry. Does CBP have any access to
8 in order to make their to make their decisions	8 the derogatory information that was that TSC
9 per their authorities. I just want to clarify.	9 relied upon to accept a nomination to the TSDB?
10 Derogatory information isn't contained in TSDB.	MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
BY MR. ABBAS:	11 answer calls for information within protections of
12 Q. Right. Yeah, that's my next question.	12 the law enforcement privilege and to the extent it
13 So when TSC disseminates TSDB information to CBP, it	
14 is literally it is just a list of names, correct?	14 purview. You can answer to the extent you can.
MS. KONKOLY: Objection.	15 THE WITNESS: I believe they have access

BY MR. ABBAS: Q. I am sorry. Let me withdraw. It is a 17 18 compilation of identifying information? 18

16

17

19

22 that you can.

BY MR. ABBAS:

MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the

20 answer calls for information protected by the law

21 enforcement privilege. You can answer to the extent

Q. How? How does CBP have access to the 19 derogatory information that TSC relies upon to 20 accept nominations to the TSDB?

16 to the derogatory information.

MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 22 answer calls for information protected by the law

280

70 (277 to 280)

- 1 enforcement privilege. Also, objection insofar as
- 2 that answer calls for information within another
- 3 agency's purview. You can answer to the extent that 3
- 4 you can.
- THE WITNESS: I don't think I can answer
- that on their behalf.
- BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. I mean, TSC has the database that holds 9 the derogatory information that TSC relies upon to 10 accept TSDB nominations, correct?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection.
- 12 Mischaracterizes prior testimony. Objection insofar 13 as --
- BY MR. ABBAS: 14
- 15 Q. I am going to withdraw it. Where does 16 the derogatory information that underlies TSDB 17 nominations live?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the 19 answer to that question calls for information 20 protected by law enforcement privilege. You can 21 answer to the extent that you can. Also, vague.
- THE WITNESS: So we have talked about it
- 1 previously. In the case of international terrorism,
- 2 it primarily or fully resides in TIDE. And in the
- 3 context of domestic terrorism information, it would
- 4 reside in Sentinel.
- BY MR. ABBAS: 5
- Q. Right, Sentinel. And the FBI controls
- Sentinel, correct?
- A. Sentinel is the FBI's case management 9 system, yes.
- Q. Does TSC always have access to the 11 underlying derogatory information that regards 12 nominations to the TSDB?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 13 14 answer calls for law enforcement privileged 15 information. Objection. You can answer to the 16 extent that you can.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 18 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Does TSC facilitate the dissemination of 19 20 Sentinel information to other agencies?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 22 Objection insofar as the answer calls for

- 1 information protected by the law enforcement
- privilege. You can answer to the extent that you
- THE WITNESS: I mean, Sentinel -- as the
- 5 FBI manages its investigations there when the FBI
- does a nomination, it begins in Sentinel. It goes
- through the various processes. It ends up in
- 8 TSDB -- you know, the biographic information. So in
- 9 as much as Sentinel feeds nominations into TSDB, I
- 10 suppose that would be true. But beyond that, I
- 11 don't know if you have a question beyond that.
- 12 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 13 O. No, I think that does that. Does TSC 14 believe that the Terror Screening Center database is 15 an effective counterterrorism program?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 17 Objection as to scope. Objection insofar as the
- 18 answer calls for law enforcement-protected
- 19 information or information within the purview of
- 20 another agency. You can answer to the extent that
- 21 you can.
- 22 THE WITNESS: Yes.

BY MR. ABBAS: 1

- O. What is the basis of TSC's belief that
- the TSDB is an effective counterterrorism program?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- Objection insofar as the answer calls for
- 6 information protected by the law enforcement
- privilege or information within the purview of
- 8 another agency. You can answer to the extent that
- 9 you can.

- 10 THE WITNESS: So I think there are many
- 11 layers to that. And that is, you know, a central 12 question of my position. I think that you begin by
- 13 looking at what doesn't happen, which is one way of
- 14 evaluating. I think you also look at what does
- 15 happen. And any time there is a terrorist event of
- 16 any kind, then that will cause us to do an after
- 17 action to determine if the individual or individuals
- 18 involved in that were known to us, if they were
- 19 watch-listed. If they were not, why not; what
- 20 screening opportunities either way might we have
- 21 had; what screening opportunities did we have, how
- 22 were those handled. Was anything missed? Were

71 (281 to 284)

Conducted on March 1, 2018 281 283 things properly disseminated? So there is that 1 you can. constant after action going on. THE WITNESS: They are sometimes Beyond that, we look to make sure that memorialized, not always. Sometimes via email and 4 our data is current, accurate, thorough. So there sometimes in significant cases there may be a 5 are consistent audits. There are internal reviews. written product that might be something we have done 6 There is extensive oversight on the part of the or something the FBI has done or something an IG or 7 inspector general from DOJ, the inspector general inspector general has done. And there have been 8 from Homeland Security, and other inspectors reports published by the inspector general on such 9 general. 9 major events anyway. 10 There is oversight by the Privacy 10 BY MR. ABBAS: 11 Liberties Oversight Board. So there are constant Q. But, certainly, the Terror Screening 12 audits that sometimes are the result of an event, 12 Center has as its goal the inclusion of persons who 13 intend to commit acts of terrorism, correct? 13 sometimes are the result of a periodic review. 14 There is the anecdotal feedback we get as we A. Absolutely. 14 15 disseminate as to whether or not that information 15 Q. And in pursuit of that goal, TSC reflects 16 was useful to our screening partners and to 16 on instances when perpetrators of terrorism are not 17 investigative and intelligence agencies. 17 in the TSDB, correct? MR. ABBAS: How much time do we have left 18 A. Yes, together with our other partners. How many perpetrators of terrorism inside 19 before the tape ends? 20 the United States were not in the TSDB at the time 20 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Three minutes. BY MR. ABBAS: 21 they committed their act of terrorism? 21 22 You said that TSC creates these MS. KONKOLY: Objection. That question O. 282 284 1 calls for information protected by the law 1 after-action reports? enforcement privilege and potentially the state A. We conduct an after action. We review it secrets. I am going to instruct the witness not to after each incident. It doesn't necessarily result in a written report. answer that question. Q. Every time there is an active terrorism 5 BY MR. ABBAS: inside the United States? Q. Does TSC know how many persons who have committed an act of terrorism inside the United A. And often internationally. Q. And often internationally. So let's do States have not been in the TSDB at the time they 9 domestic first and then we will do international. 9 committed their act of terrorism? 10 Every time there is a domestic terrorism event, TSC MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 11 reviews that incident to determine whether the 11 answer calls for information protected by the law 12 enforcement or the state secret privilege, but you 12 perpetrator was in the TSDB or not, correct? 13 can answer to the extent that you can. 13 A. That's the beginning of the analysis, THE WITNESS: I don't know the answer off 14 yes. 15 MR. ABBAS: Indiana, Arizona. 15 the top of my head, but the TSC could determine BY MR. ABBAS: 16 16 that. Q. Do those after-action reports -- I am 17 MR. ABBAS: Let's stop there. Can we 18 sorry. Do those after-action reviews get 18 take a 10-minute break? I am feeling winded.

PLANET DEPOS

19

22

21 possible.

MS. KONKOLY: I would like to keep it as

20 short as possible to get out of here as soon as

MR. ABBAS: Ten minutes is very

19 memorialized in documents?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the

21 answer calls for any information protected by the

22 law privilege. You can answer to the extent that

72 (285 to 288)

Conducted on March 1, 2018 287 reasonable. How much time is -- how much on the MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 1 record do we have? 2 speculation. Objection insofar as that information MS. KONKOLY: Can we say seven, so we -- the answer calls for information protected by law actually mean 10? 4 enforcement or potentially the state secrets THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the privilege. If you think you can answer, you can. THE WITNESS: I think more than five. record. The time is 4:03 p.m. (A recess was held.) 7 BY MR. ABBAS: THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Here begins tape 8 O. More than ten? 9 number one for the videotaped deposition of Timothy MS. KONKOLY: Same set of objections. 10 Paul Groh. We have been on the record for five 10 Vague. Calls for speculation insofar as it calls 11 hours and six minutes. The time on the video 11 for information protected by the law enforcement or 12 monitor is 4:16 p.m. And we are back on the record. 12 potentially the state secrets privilege. But you 13 can answer if you can. 13 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. Has the TSDB ever stopped an act of 14 14 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I don't think I can 15 terrorism inside the United States? 15 further answer that. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for BY MR. ABBAS: 16 17 speculation. Objection insofar as that information 17 Q. More than 20. 18 -- answer calls for information protected by law 18 MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. Vague, 19 enforcement or the state secret privilege. 19 calls for speculation. Calls for information 20 Objection. Vague. You can answer if you think you 20 protected by the law enforcement, potentially state 21 secrets privileges. If you think you can answer, 21 can. 22 THE WITNESS: So I think it is impossible 22 you can. 286 288 1 for the TSDB alone to ever stop anything. That 1 THE WITNESS: Same. 2 said, I do believe there are cases where the TSDB 2 BY MR. ABBAS: 3 has led to information that wouldn't have been Q. When you say that the TSDB has prevented 4 multiple acts of terrorism inside the United States, 4 discovered but for the TSDB that has then stopped 5 acts of terrorism in the United States. in your head do you have specific instances of the 6 TSDB stopping acts of terrorism inside the United BY MR. ABBAS: 6 States? Q. How many acts of terrorism inside the 8 United States does TSC believe that the TSDB has MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. prevented? 9 Objection insofar as that calls for information 10 protected by the law enforcement or potentially 10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 11 state secrets privileges. You can answer if you 11 Objection insofar as that question calls for 12 think you can. 12 information protected by the law enforcement or 13 potentially state secret privileges. You can answer THE WITNESS: I do. And in particular 13 14 cases, yes. 14 if you can. 15 BY MR. ABBAS: 15 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. And I am asking for a number. That's all Q. How many particular cases are you 17 specifically aware of that you are claiming the TSDB 17 I am asking for. 18 has stopped acts of terrorism inside the United 18 MS. KONKOLY: Same objections. THE WITNESS: The only thing I think I 19 States? 19 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague, calls 20 can say is multiple. 20

21 for speculation. Objection. Asked and answered.

22 Objection insofar as this answer calls for

BY MR. ABBAS:

More than five?

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1 information protected by the law enforcement

2 privilege or the state secrets privilege. If you

- 3 think there is something where you haven't already
- 4 said that is not privileged --
- 5 THE WITNESS: I do not.
- 6 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 7 Q. And is it your testimony today that the
- 8 TSDB has stopped more than 20 acts of terrorism
- 9 inside the United States?
- MS. KONKOLY: Same set of objections.
- 11 Asked and answered. Calls for speculation, vague.
- 12 Objection. Calls for information protected by the
- 13 law enforcement and potentially the state secrets 14 privilege.
- 15 THE WITNESS: I don't know why you would 16 think that I said that. I did not say that.
- 17 MS. KONKOLY: Mischaracterizes prior 18 testimony.
- 19 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 20 Q. If you do not believe that the Terror
- 21 Screening Center -- I am sorry. I think you must
- 22 have misunderstood my question. Is it the -- does
- 1 the Terror Screening Center believe that the TSDB
- 2 has stopped more than 20 acts of terrorism inside
- 3 the United States?
- 4 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and
- 5 answered. Objection. Vague, calls for speculation.
- 6 Objection. Calls for information protected by the
- 7 law enforcement privilege and potentially the state
- 8 secrets privilege. If you think there's --
- 9 THE WITNESS: I don't think I can further 10 answer.
- 11 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 12 Q. So you have no -- you are not going to 13 tell me anything about the number of times you have 14 in your head when -- you said multiple. So that 15 means at least two times you believe that the TSDB 16 has stopped an act of terrorism inside the United 17 States, correct?
- 18 A. I agree that I said multiple. And I 19 agree that multiple means more than two.
- 20 Q. Okay. So I want to see like an upper -- 21 I think you see. I want to see like the upper 22 threshold.

1 A. Yes, I understand. And I am saying that 2 I don't believe I can.

73 (289 to 292)

MS. KONKOLY: And I want to interpose an objection.

5 BY MR. ABBAS:

- Q. Well, I will ask an easy question. Letme ask an easy question. Has the Terror Screening
- R Center stopped more than a thousand acts of
- 9 terrorism inside the United States?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 11 speculation. Objection. Vague. Objection. Calls 12 for information within law enforcement and 13 potentially the state secrets privilege. If you
- THE WITNESS: I don't believe I can 16 answer anything more than I already have.
- 17 BY MR. ABBAS:

14 think you can answer --

18 Q. You don't know whether the terror 19 screening -- so TSC doesn't have a position as to 20 whether or not the Terror Screening Database has 21 stopped more than 1000 acts of terrorism inside the 22 United States?

DB 1 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and

answered. Objection. Argumentative.

3 BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. I am done. That's fine. But what's the answer?

A. That I'm not answering.

- 7 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. I entered the 8 privileges. Same law enforcement and potentially 9 state secrets.
- 10 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 11 Q. Has there ever -- has TSC ever conducted 12 an assessment of the effectiveness of the Terror 13 Screening Center?
- 4 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 15 Objection insofar as it calls for information
- 16 protected by law enforcement. You can answer to the 17 extent that you can.
- 18 THE WITNESS: As per my prior testimony,
- 19 I think that process is ongoing. And there have
- 20 been certainly other large-scale comprehensive
- 21 audits. I would just caution that it is necessary
- 22 to determine the effectiveness since the TSDB does

292

PLANET DEPOS

1 not by itself do anything. It is only in

- 2 partnership with other agencies that those sort of
- 3 determinations require a look across multiple
- 4 agencies. Those kinds of broad assessments are
- 5 being almost continuously conducted by the
- 6 inspectors general and the GAO at the request of
- 7 Congress.
- 8 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 9 Q. I am going to ask a question. We are now 10 going to move to the DHS TRIP process and TSC's role
- 11 in the DHS TRIP process. How are persons removed
- 12 from the TSDB?
- 13 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 14 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. I'm sorry. Let me withdraw thatquestion. Are there multiple ways in which a personlisted in the TSDB can be removed from the TSDB?
- 18 A. I don't know if you mean that the process 19 could be started or that the actual removal is 20 accomplished.
- 21 Q. Are there multiple ways in which a person 22 can be ultimately removed from the TSDB?

Q. But there are multiple ways at arriving

74 (293 to 296)

295

- 2 at a removal action, correct?
 - A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Identify all the ways that we can arrive
- 5 at a removal action?
- 6 MS. KONKOLY: Objection.
- BY MR. ABBAS:
- 8 Q. Let me withdraw. Identify all the ways
- that TSC personnel issue a removal action.
- 10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. I would
- 11 also just note that topic two expressly excluded the
- 12 revised redress process for U.S. persons on the
- 13 No-Fly List, so.
- MR. ABBAS: I am asking about the TSDB.
- 15 I am not asking about the No-Fly List.
- MS. KONKOLY: Well, the TSDB includes the 17 No-Fly List.
- 18 By MR. ABBAS: I am asking about the 19 TSDB. The topic includes the TSDB. And I'm asking 20 about the TSDB.
- 21 MS. KONKOLY: Well, I am objecting as to 22 scope insofar as that implicates the No-Fly List,

294

1 A. Any removal is going to go through the 2 same technical process.

- Q. What is the technical process of removal 4 of a person from the TSDB?
- 5 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague and
- 6 objection insofar as this answer calls for
- 7 information held by or equities possessed by other
- 8 agencies.
- 9 THE WITNESS: The Nominations Data
- 10 Integrity Unit that handles nominations would
- 11 process. Their analysts would go in and in their 12 work flow with TSDB, they would enter a removal
- 13 action. And no matter how we got to that point,
- 13 detion. That no matter now we got to that poin
- 14 that's the ultimate point at which that removal 15 would occur.
- 16 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 17 Q. So the folks in NDIU would enter what's 18 called a removal action?
- 19 A. Correct.
- Q. Is that like a form?
- 21 A. It is an electronic form. So electronic
- 22 work flow might be a better way to put it.

- 1 which has been expressly excluded from this topic by
- 2 the court's order. And I would instruct the witness
- 3 not to answer questions that have to do with the
- 4 revised redress process insofar as your answer 5 implicates or could potentially implicate that
- 6 revised process for U.S. persons on the No-Fly List.
- 7 I am instructing you not to answer questions as to
- 8 that piece of the process.
- 9 THE WITNESS: I understand.
- 10 MS. KONKOLY: You can answer the
- 11 remaining portion of that question.
- 12 THE WITNESS: So it is -- there could be,
- 13 as I previously stated, a multitude. I would
- 14 endeavor to give you the ones that I can think of
- 15 with the caveat that wherever it makes sense to do a
- 16 removal, then that's where we would do it. The
- 17 simplest way is the original nominating agency
- 18 request removal based on either new information,
- 19 exculpatory information, or a retraction of the
- 20 derogatory information. Then we would look at that,
- 21 look at all the information out there and make a
- 22 determination whether or not the person still meets

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1 the appropriate standard. That would come from the

- 2 nominating agency. It is possible as a result of an
- 3 encounter that we would acquire new information.
- 4 Again, it could be exculpatory. It could be
- 5 information that refutes. It could be something
- 6 that goes to the credibility of a source that would
- cause us to re-evaluate that and cause us to perform
- a removal.
- Q. Are nominating agencies obligated in some 10 manner to provide TSC with exculpatory information 11 regarding TSDB listees?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 13 calls for any information protected by the law 14 enforcement privilege or any information within the 15 purview of other equities belonging to other
- 16 agencies. But you can answer so far as you can.
- 17 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Let me rephrase the question. Does TSC 19 require nominating agencies to provide TSC with 20 exculpatory information regarding TSDB listees that 21 the nominating agency learns of?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 2 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. You require -- how do you enforce the
- requirement against nominating agencies that
- requires them to provide TSC with exculpatory
- 6 information that the nominating agency finds about
- TSDB listees?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. You can
- 9 answer.
- 10 THE WITNESS: So you say require. I
- 11 would go back to my previous testimony about -- it
- 12 is the same as our expectation that they will
- 13 provide nominations to us when they have
- 14 information. I also have the expectation and
- 15 agreement that they will provide exculpatory.
- To go to your question when, we conduct
- 17 periodic reviews based on a number of factors.
- 18 Periodic reviews are different kinds of reviews for
- 19 different categories of records. Some are random
- 20 reviews where we review derogatory. We review
- 21 derogatory information in U.S. Government holdings,
- 22 not just necessarily that's reported to us. And we

1 can -- basically, we will modify our records on our

75 (297 to 300)

299

- own if we find information out there that
- contradicts, refutes, or otherwise would cause us to
- modify a record. We want it to be thorough and
- accurate and current. And we have no interest in
- anybody being in TSDB who shouldn't be there.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
- 8 Q. Are there innocent people in the TSDB? 9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for
- 10 speculation. Vague.
- THE WITNESS: There are no innocent
- 12 people that I am specifically aware of that are in
- 13 TSDB. Inasmuch as we find people that, again, those
- 14 previous -- as soon as we find somebody that we no
- 15 longer believe meets criteria, then we immediately 16 remove them.
- 17 BY MR. ABBAS:
- O. Does TSC keep track of which TSDB 18
- 19 listees' entries have been supplemented with
- 20 exculpatory information uncovered by any entity
- 21 subsequent to the TSDB's placement in the TSDB?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 1 Objection insofar as the answer calls for
 - information protected by the law enforcement
 - privilege. You can answer if you can.
 - THE WITNESS: So if somebody is removed,
 - they are removed. So they don't show up if you do a
 - search as somebody that's been removed with the
 - caveat that there is an audit history that only a

 - very, very few individuals at TSC have access to.
 - 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
 - Q. So TSC keeps a record of persons that 11 have once been in the TSDB but are no longer in the
 - 12 TSDB, correct?
 - 13 A. It is necessary to do so, yes.
 - 14 Q. Why is it necessary to do so?
 - 15 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
 - 16 Objection insofar as that answer calls for --
 - MR. ABBAS: He said necessary. I am just 17 18 asking --
 - 19 MS. KONKOLY: And the rationale may
 - 20 implicate privileged information protected by the
- 21 law enforcement privilege and potentially state
- 22 secrets in an individual case. You can answer to

304

76 (301 to 304)

1 the extent that you can.

THE WITNESS: For instance, if somebody

- 3 was then renominated, you would want to be able to
- 4 have a flag that you had previously removed them.
- 5 For instance, you could have circular reporting that
- 6 came up to another agency -- another agency, based
- 7 on the same original derog; nominate somebody we
- 8 would want to be able to detect that so we don't
- 9 accidently re-watch list somebody that had 10 previously been removed.
- 11 Q. People listed on the Terror Screening 12 Database have filed lawsuits against the Terror
- 13 Screening Center, correct?

14 A. I am aware of that.

- 15 Q. Including the 25 plaintiffs in this case, 16 correct?
- 17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Misleading 18 insofar as that question implies that the 25
- 19 plaintiffs are in the TSDB. And objection -- 20 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 21 Q. Sure. That's fair. Question withdrawn. 22 People who believe that they are in the TSDB have
- 1 filed lawsuits against the Terror Screening Center,
- 2 correct?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. Does TSC annotate TSDB entries to reflect
- 5 whether the listee is currently engaged in
- 6 litigation against the Federal Government?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 10 Q. Has TSC made any removal decisions in 11 light of ongoing litigation against the TSC brought
- 12 by persons who allege they are included in the TSDB?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection vague. Objection
- 14 insofar as the answer would indicate any information 15 protected by law enforcement privilege. But you can
- 16 answer if you can.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Not because they filed -- 18 not because they filed litigation or I would say
- 19 redress. Any reason that causes us to look at a
- 20 record where we then find that it either -- that it
- 21 does no longer meet criteria, we would remove at
- 22 that point regardless of status of litigation or not

1 litigation.

BY MR. ABBAS:

- Q. So litigation is a reason that TSC has utilized in the past to assess the sufficiency of the derogatory information relied upon to accept a TSDB nomination?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague and mischaracterizes prior testimony.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Yeah, absolutely is not a 10 criteria for removal. For instance, in the scope of 11 answering an interrogatory or preparing it, 12 certainly if we come across for any reason, 13 including that, a reason to believe that a record is 14 not properly maintained or is no lopper properly 15 maintained, then we are -- regardless of any status, 16 we are going to make the appropriate decision on
- 18 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 19 Q. So has litigation ever prompted TSC to 20 reconsider a listee's status in the TSDB?
- 21 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and 22 answered.

1 THE WITNESS: I can't think of

- particular -- if you are talking about Federal
- 3 Government litigation, no. If you are talking about
- 4 redress, I would say yes.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
- 6 Q. So federal litigation has never prompted
- 7 TSC to revisit the priority of a placement in the
- 8 TSDB?

17 that.

- 9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague and 10 mischaracterizes prior testimony.
- 11 THE WITNESS: I just -- I just can't
- 12 think of a particular one. There is no reason why
- 13 it would be different from redress. I just can't
- 14 think of one.
- 15 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 16 Q. I don't understand. You can't think of 17 one what?
- 18 A. Of a situation where pending formal 19 litigation has caused us to review a particular 20 record and in that review, we have decided that it 21 didn't meet the appropriate standards. I can think 22 of redress cases where in the course of reviewing -

Transcript of Timothy P. Groh, Designated Representative

77 (305 to 308)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

307 1 reviewing something, we became aware of information 1 information. They will compare that against the 2 that caused us to remove or modify a record. But standards and ultimately make either -- either 3 there is no reason why those would be fundamentally decide if it's a TSDB status or recommend to the TSA 4 different. administrator any appropriate changes to watch Q. Sure. Could TSC remove someone from the listing status for that person. TSDB prior to the conclusion of the DHS TRIP redress Q. How does TSC Redress Unit personnel process? confirm the accuracy of information the nominating A. Yes. As I just testified, at any point agency relied upon to submit the nomination? 9 if we become aware of that, then we are not going to A. So they will review the derogatory 10 wait for the process to terminate. Again, we want 10 information as it appears in those other two systems 11 it to be current, accurate, and thorough. And if it 11 in Sentinel and/or TIDE. 12 no longer meets, it no longer meets regardless of Q. So say they just review the face of the 13 any process. 13 derogatory -- whatever the description is that the Q. So my understanding is that the TSA 14 nominating agency provided in Sentinel. 15 administrator has -- I guess that's no final MS. KONKOLY: Okay. I just note that 16 specific -- who has final -- what is TSC's 16 that was an interruption to his answer. He was not 17 understanding of who has the final say as to whether 17 done. Your question mischaracterizes his testimony, 18 a person on the selectee list's redress complaint 18 which he was not finished giving. Objection. Vague 19 results in a change in watch list status? 19 and argumentative and potentially protected by 20 MS. KONKOLY: Calls for a legal 20 attorney -- I am sorry. Not attorney/client 21 conclusion. You can answer. 21 privilege, but a law enforcement privilege. Let's THE WITNESS: The TSA administrator. 22 rephrase. I think we can continue with --306 308 BY MR. ABBAS: BY MR. ABBAS: Q. Sure. And I apologize Mr. Groh for Q. Okay. In that regards, whether it is the No-Fly List or the selectee list, the TSA interrupting. I am just trying to understand. This administrator has the final say, correct? is all new to me. I mean, how is the derogatory information -- how does the -- how does the 5 A. Yes. derogatory information appear to TSC Redress Unit 6 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. employees? 7 MR. ABBAS: Luckily we got that answer. MS. KONKOLY: Wait. Can you repeat the 8 BY MR. ABBAS: question? I didn't hear that. TSC has a Redress Unit, correct? Q. 10 MR. ABBAS: Sure. Could you read it 10 A. Yes. 11 back? 11 Q. How many people are in the Redress Unit? About half a dozen. 12 (The record was read.) 12 THE WITNESS: The same way it does to What do -- what does the TSC Redress Unit 13 13 O. 14 NDIU employees. They access TIDE or Sentinel and 14 do? 15 review whatever the original derogatory information 15 A. They receive redress. I think it is 16 complaints from -- from DHS TRIP that DHS TRIP 16 was. 17 believes have an nexus to the TSDB. They then do a 17 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. Is the derogatory -- does the like -- so 18 de novo review of those complaints. They go back to 19 if the FBI nominates someone, the derogatory 19 the beginning of the record wherever that started. 20 They will contact the nominator to find out if the 20 information would be in Sentinel, correct? 21 information originally provided is still current, 21 A. Yes.

22 check with them to see if there is any additional

22

So it's like the FBI agent that nominates

311

78 (309 to 312)

- 1 a person to the TSDB, they will type information
- 2 into Sentinel that's viewable by NDIU and redress --
- 3 TSC Redress Unit employees?
- 4 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
- 5 calls for information in the purview of the FBI.
- 6 You can answer as to your understanding.
- THE WITNESS: The -- yeah, there is a
- 8 nominations form that they will fill out. But there
- 9 is also basically the case file that that nomination
- 10 form is part of. And so, generally, they are going
- 11 to have access to that entire case file.
- 12 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Does TSC require NDIU employees to review 13
- 14 the entire case file prior to making a decision
- 15 regarding whether or not to remove a person from the 16 TSDB?
- 17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
- 18 calls for information protected by a law enforcement
- 19 privilege. You can answer if you can.
- THE WITNESS: So it is a multi-step 20
- 21 process. If the agent nominates their supervisor,
- 22 we will approve. It then comes to a unit in the
- 310
- 1 Terror Screening Center Terrorist Review and
- 2 Examination Unit, otherwise known as TREX. They
- 3 will then review the nomination. They will
- 4 generally review the file. I don't know that -- I
- 5 can't speak for did they look at every one of
- 6 potentially hundreds of thousands serials. You
- 7 know, they are going to look at the derog. And they
- 8 are going to make an assessment based on that
- 9 information. That will then, if it's an
- 10 international terrorism nomination, go to the
- 11 National Counter-Terrorism Center. They will review
- 12 the nomination. Then it will come back to NDIU.
- 13 And they will as almost a third agency review the
- 14 nomination before it is then accepted in the TSDB.
- 15 Q. Or rejected?
- A. Or rejected. And it could have been 17 rejected in any of those previous steps, also.
- Q. Got it. So nomination -- so let me just
- 19 make sure I got it. You have a nominating agent?
- 20 A. In the FBI, yes.
- In the FBI. But there are other 21
- 22 nominating agencies, correct?

- A. Absolutely. That's the FBI's process.
- Q. HHS can nominate, correct. 2
 - MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
 - calls for law enforcement privilege.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
- 6 Q. Whether HHS -- who are the agencies that
- can submit nominations to the Terror Screening
- Center?
- 9 MS. KONKOLY: And I am going to object on 10 the grounds --
- MR. ABBAS: I am going to withdraw the 12 question. I actually have the answer.
- 13 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. So let me just go with the FBI. So are 14
- 15 there individual FBI agents that can just submit
- 16 nominations to the Terror Screening Center without
- 17 supervisory approval?
- 18 A. No.
- O. Are there variations in how FBI field 19
- 20 offices manage their agents submitting nominations
- 21 to the Terror Screening Center?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection that that
 - 312
- 1 information calls for information within the purview
- of the FBI. You can testify as to your
- 3 understanding. Also objection insofar as it calls
- for information protected by the law enforcement
- privilege.
- THE WITNESS: It is a standardized
- process across the FBI.
- BY MR. ABBAS:
- 9 Q. So there is no geographic variation in 10 the FBI nominating process?
- MS. KONKOLY: Again, objection. 11
- 12 MR. ABBAS: Okay. He answered.
- MS. KONKOLY: Okay. I am going to state 13
- 14 the objection that that called for information with
- 15 the purview of the FBI and that answer is not
- 16 binding on the agency.
- 17 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Has TSC ever questioned the voracity of 19 information that a nominating agency has provided to 20 the Terror Screening Center?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection as to scope.
- 22 Objection, vague. Calls for speculation;

316

79 (313 to 316)

1 potentially information within the law enforcement 2 privilege. You can answer to the extent that you 3 can. 4 THE WITNESS: When you say voracity, I 5 mean, clearly from the fact that we reject

- 6 nominations, we disagree with the standard. Whether
- 7 or not that is the same as voracity, I am not sure.
- 8 I don't know -- exactly understand what you mean by 9 voracity.
- 10 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Well, you reject nominations for two 12 reasons, right? If it doesn't meet the minimum 13 substantive derogatory information. Is that what 14 you call it?
- 15 A. Yeah, you can. That's fine. I 16 understand what that means.
- O. The second reason is it doesn't meet the 18 minimum identifying information?
- 19 A. Basically, ves.
- Q. And you all don't keep track of how many 20 21 nominations are rejected because of a failure to 22 meet minimum identifying derogatory information

THE WITNESS: I suspect that that answer

- varies over time. I think there have been times in
- history where it has been one. And I think there
- 4 have been times in history when it has been the
- other. I couldn't tell you at this particular
- moment which one is more common.
 - MR. ABBAS: Indiana.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Does the Terror Screening Center 10 independently investigate derogatory information 11 provided to it in support of nominations to the 12 TSDB?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 13 14 question calls for information protected by the law 15 enforcement privilege. You can answer if you can.
- 16 THE WITNESS: So it depends on what you 17 mean by the word investigate. If what we -- yeah, 18 so I will let you tell me. What did you mean by the 19 word investigate?
- 20 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 21 Q. Do you make an independent determination 22 as to the truthfulness of the information that

1 versus minimum substantive derogatory information,

2 correct?

3 A. No, it is not easily tracked.

- Q. Are you aware of nominations that have 5 been rejected because those nominations do not meet 5
- 6 the minimum substantive derogatory information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as it
- 8 calls for any information protected by law
- 9 enforcement privilege. You can answer it insofar as 10 you can.
- 11 THE WITNESS: Yes, we do reject for that 12 reason.
- BY MR. ABBAS: 13
- Q. Which reason is more common -- more 15 commonly a basis for nomination rejection -- a 16 failure to meet minimum substantive derogatory 17 information standards or a failure to meet minimum 18 identifying information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as it 19 20 calls for information pertaining to the law 21 enforcement privilege. You can answer insofar as 22 you can.

nominating agencies provide to the TSC?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as it calls for any information protected by law enforcement privilege. You can answer if you can.

THE WITNESS: So certainly the TSC

doesn't go out into the field and interview people.

BY MR. ABBAS:

19 person meets the standard.

O. Okay.

8

314

A. That said, when we assess, we check all 10 the intelligence that's available to us. And if a 11 nominator were to provide us a piece of information 12 and we find another piece of information in our own 13 searches of intelligence holdings that contradicts 14 that, we would certainly take that into 15 consideration where we found exculpatory or 16 something that discredits the source or something 17 along those lines. And we make a totality of 18 circumstances determination as to whether or not the

Q. Are persons on the selectee list who 21 apply for redress via DHS TRIP notified by TSC as to 22 what their status on the TSDB is?

320

Conducted on March 1, 2018

317

1 A. No.

- Q. Does TSC provide persons on the selectee
- 3 list who have applied for redress via DHS TRIP with
- 4 an opportunity to contest the derogatory information
- 5 TSC relied upon to accept their nomination to the 6 TSDB?
- 7 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.
- 8 THE WITNESS: They can certainly submit
- 9 any information they would like to submit through 10 the redress process and we will consider it.
- 11 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 12 Q. Does the Terror Screening Center identify
- 13 the inclusion standard -- has the Terror Screening
- 14 Center ever publicly identified the inclusion
- 15 standard for the selectee list?

16 A. I don't believe so.

- 17 Q. Are there people on Terror Screening
- 18 Database who are not on the selectee list or the 19 No-Fly List?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
- 21 question calls for any information implicated by law
- 22 enforcement privilege or potentially state secrets.
- 1 I believe it has already been asked and answered.
- 2 But you can answer if you can.
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 4 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 5 Q. Is the selectee list inclusion standard
- 6 more permissive or less permissive than the
- 7 inclusion standard for the selectee -- let me start
- 8 again. Is the selectee list inclusion standard more
- 9 permissive or less permissive than the Terror
- 10 Screening database's inclusion standard?
- MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object on the
- 12 basis of SSI, also the law enforcement privilege.
- 13 And on the basis of each of those privileges, I am 14 going to instruct the witness not to answer.
- MR. ABBAS: How is the TSC's inclusion
- 16 standard SSI, because it belongs to TSC? It doesn't 17 belong to TSA. TSC can't call everything that it
- 18 would like to call SSI. It has to make that 19 information.
- 20 MS. KONKOLY: The objection is on the 21 record and it stands.
- MR. ABBAS: Let me just make sure it is

- 1 clear. Can you read back the last question?
- (The record was read back.)
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
- 4 Q. Is the -- now I remember. Is the
- 5 selectee list inclusion standard more permissive or
- 6 less permissive than the TSDB inclusion standard?
- 7 MS. KONKOLY: I am going to issue the
- 8 same objections and instructions. That might be
- 9 something we can confer on and get back to you on
- 10 after a break. But for the moment, I am going to
- 11 stand on this. I would like to keep going.
- MR. ABBAS: No, I don't want to keep
- 13 going. If you need to confer, I would like to get 14 this question answered.
- MS. KONKOLY: Okay. Then let me just
- 16 step out and confer for a moment.
- MR. ABBAS: Can we go off the record?
- 18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the
- 19 record. The time is 4:55 p.m.
- 20 (A brief recess was held.)
- THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the
- 22 record. And we have been on the record for 5 hours
- 318
- 1 and 44 minutes. And the time is 4:59 p.m.
 - 2 MS. KONKOLY: There was a pending
 - 3 question. Can we have that read back?
 - 4 (The record was read back.)
 - 5 MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object
 - 6 insofar as a comprehensive answer would call into
- 7 play information protected by the law enforcement
- 8 privilege, potentially state secrets, potentially
- 9 SSI. However, you can answer.
- 10 THE WITNESS: So the selectee criteria
- 11 are inclusive of the standard -- the reasonable
- 12 suspicion standard. And there are additional
- 13 criteria beyond that. So it is a higher bar for my
- 14 higher bar than your more permissive or less
- 15 permissive language. So I would say a higher h
- 15 permissive language. So I would say a higher bar 16 than the general TSDB standard.
- 17 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 18 Q. So there are persons in the TSDB who are 19 not in the selectee list, but there are not persons
- 20 on the selectee list who are not in the TSDB?
- 21 A. That is correct.
- 22 Q. Okay. All right. Great. Does -- at any

Transcript of Timothy P. Groh, Designated Representative

81 (321 to 324)

Conducted on March 1, 2018 323 1 time, does TSC inform TSDB listees -- at any time, bar than a preponderance of the evidence standard? MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a 2 does TSC inform selectee listees of the derogatory 3 information that TSC relied upon to accept the legal conclusion. 4 listees' nomination to the selectee list? 4 THE WITNESS: I believe it is. 5 A. No, we do not. BY MR. ABBAS: Q. Does the -- is the reasonable suspicion 6 Q. Does -- to satisfy the TSDB inclusion 7 -- is what you call -- okay. So the TSDB reasonable 7 standard, must a person have engaged in criminal 8 -- I am sorry. The inclusion standard for -- let me activity? 9 get that. Is the -- does TSC provide notice to 9 A. No, not necessarily. 10 persons on the selectee list that they are on the 10 Q. So lawful activity can be the basis of a 11 selectee list at any time? 11 person's inclusion in the TSDB? 12 A. No. 12 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Misleading. And I know I have asked this question. I 13 Objection. Mischaracterizes prior testimony. 13 MR. ABBAS: If I am wrong, tell me. 14 am just asking it for foundation purposes. And I 14 15 will ask a follow-up question. What is the 15 MS. KONKOLY: Calls for a legal 16 inclusion standard for the TSDB? 16 conclusion. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 17 17 THE WITNESS: Lawful inasmuch as it is 18 not a chargeable offense. I think I can't give 18 information protected by the law enforcement 19 purchase to the word lawful in that case. I know 19 privilege, potentially SSI, potentially SSP, vague. MR. ABBAS: The inclusion standard for 20 20 that the person does not need to be chargeable to be 21 in the TSDB. However, activities they are involved 21 the TSDB? 22 in could depending on how circumstances finally turn MS. KONKOLY: Oh, I'm sorry. I heard you 322 324 1 say selectee. I withdraw. I misheard the question. 1 out end up being part of conduct that could 2 eventually be determined to be unlawful through the MR. ABBAS: Okay. THE WITNESS: It is generally what we 3 course of investigation or depending on what the refer to as the reasonable suspicion standard. person chooses to do. Q. Does -- does there need to be reasonable BY MR. ABBAS: suspicion of unlawful activity to include a person Q. Okay. And I am going to spend probably 6 in the Terror Screening Center? 7 like 30 minutes asking you questions about this MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a standard. Why do you all call it a reasonable 9 suspicion standard? 9 legal conclusion. You can answer. 10 A. I wasn't there when it was originally --10 THE WITNESS: I am sorry. Can you repeat 11 you know -- so when it was originally -- what the 11 that? BY MR. ABBAS: 12 rationale originally was when it was come up with, I 12 13 don't know. I would say that as of sitting here Q. Yeah. I will repeat it. Reasonable 13 14 right now, it is a quick explanation of that 14 suspicion of what? A. Involvement in terrorist activities. 15 particular standard. There are more words behind 15 16 it. But it is simply the term that we use to refer Q. I am going to introduce Exhibit A. 17 to what is a longer definition. 17 Exhibit A is the overview document. A. Okav. Q. The -- to be included -- so is the TSDB 18 19 inclusion standard a lower bar than a probable cause 19 Q. I am not going to -- you are not -- we 20 standard? 20 are not going to ask all about it. I just really 21 want to go to page three of the section titled Watch 21 A.

22 Listing and Screening.

Yes.

Is the TSDB inclusion standard a lower

Q.

82 (325 to 328)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

325 327 1 publicly disseminated this document in any way? A. Okay. MR. ABBAS: I am sorry. It is like in MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 2 3 support of -- I am sorry. We are going to go question calls for information within the purview of 4 through some documents in a little bit. We need other agencies. five minutes. Can we go off the record? THE WITNESS: I am not aware of a THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the particular public release of this document. record. The time is 5:07 p.m. BY MR. ABBAS: (A recess was held.) 8 Q. Are you aware that this document has been 9 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the 9 provided to the plaintiffs in response to 10 record. The time is 5:17 p.m. And we have been on 10 plaintiff's discovery requests? 11 the record for 5 hours and 51 minutes. A. Yes. 11 12 MR. ABBAS: Five hours and 51 minutes? 12 Q. Was this document prepared for the 13 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Correct. 13 purposes of litigation? 14 (Exhibit A, marked for identification.) 14 MS. KONKOLY: You can answer. 15 BY MR. ABBAS: THE WITNESS: It was prepared for many 15 16 Q. The document in front of you has been 16 purposes, not to exclude litigation. 17 marked as Exhibit A. Are you familiar with this 17 BY MR. ABBAS: 18 document? 18 Q. Was one of the purposes, Exhibit A, the 19 overview of the U.S. Government's watch listing 19 A. It appears to be what we could call a 20 transparency document. 20 process and procedures? Is one of the purposes of Q. Who decided to create this document? 21 this -- is one of the reasons this document was 21 22 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 22 created for purposes of use in this litigation? 326 328 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as it THE WITNESS: The Watch Listing Advisory Council. calls for information in the purview of other 3 BY MR. ABBAS: agencies. You can answer. Q. What I suspected. Why did the Watch THE WITNESS: You mean for this Listing Advisory Council decide to create this particular lawsuit? 5 6 document? 6 BY MR. ABBAS: MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 7 O. Yes. 8 Objection insofar as an answer would call for law A. No, not in particular for this lawsuit. 8 9 enforcement sensitive information. You can answer Q. Was this document created for general 10 to the extent you can. 10 litigation purposes? THE WITNESS: Because we had -- it is a MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as it 12 -- the watch listing community, the watch listing 12 calls for information in the purview of other 13 enterprise is broad. And we wanted to -- because 13 agencies and a legal conclusion. 14 there are so many, as you see, privileges and other THE WITNESS: It was -- as I said before, 15 information-sharing restrictions related to what we 15 it was created to provide agencies with the 16 do, we thought it was important to agree on things 16 information as so much of what we do is interrelated 17 that we could provide in an unclassified public 17 and interlocked with other agencies. It was created 18 setting about what we do. 18 -- and the process of creating this took some time. 19 BY MR. ABBAS: 19 BY MR. ABBAS:

20

22

21 this document?

Q. How long? How long did it take to create

A. At least six months, maybe as much as a

Q. Have you disseminated -- I'm sorry. Has

21 the Terror Screening Center or any of the member

22 agencies of the Watch Listing Advisory Council

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1 year.

- 2 Q. When was this document created?
- A. My recollection is it was probably
- finalized at the end of the last calendar year.
- O. Was -- was the creation of this document
- 6 communicated in a statement of conclusions that the
- Watch Listing Advisory Council issued?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
- 9 would call for any law enforcement sensitive
- 10 information. You can answer if you can.
- THE WITNESS: I would expect the
- 12 discussion about this document would appear in those
- 13 statements of conclusion.
- 14 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 15 Q. Great. I would like you to turn to page
- 16 four. Oh, Arizona. So the top paragraph of page
- 17 four describes the reasonable suspicion standard.
- 18 Can you just review that top paragraph. I have some
- 19 questions about that. Let me know when you have
- 20 finished reviewing that paragraph.
- 21 A. (Witness reading.)
- 22 Oh, you are done?

330

- A. Yes. 1
- Q. So it is my understanding that this
- 3 paragraph -- this first paragraph on page four of
- 4 Exhibit A elaborates on the meaning of the
- 5 reasonable suspicion standard that you have referred
- 6 to as the TSDB inclusion standard, correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And it identifies what -- as to what the
- 9 reasonable suspicion is of; is that correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- Q. And the TSDB inclusion standard is a
- 12 reasonable suspicion of -- is a reasonable suspicion
- 13 that the individual is engaged in conduct
- 14 constituting terrorism or terrorism activities,
- 15 correct? That would -- reasonable suspicion of that
- 16 would satisfy the TSDB inclusion standard, correct?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a
- 18 legal conclusion. The document speaks for itself.
- 19 You can answer.
- 20 THE WITNESS: So I am sorry.
- 21 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 22 Q. Let me just try it again. That was bad.

- 1 So you see in the third line where it says
- reasonable suspicion that the individuals engaged,

83 (329 to 332)

331

332

- has been engaged, or intends to engage in conduct
- 4 constituting in preparation for, in aid, or
- furtherance of, or related to terrorism and/or
- 6 terrorism activities, correct?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. So it is reasonable suspicion of a
- 9 variety of different things, correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- Q. One of those things is pretty easy to
- 12 understand. Reasonable suspicion that the
- 13 individual is now engaged in terrorism or terrorist 14 activities?
- A. Yes. 15
- That's straightforward. Engaging in
- 17 terrorist and terrorism activities is a crime,
- 18 correct?
- 19 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a
- 20 legal conclusion.
- MR. ABBAS: He is the deputy director of 21
- 22 the Terror Screen Center.
- MS. KONKOLY: Okay. He can answer.
 - THE WITNESS: You know, I don't think
 - there is any federal statute that says that. So if
 - you are going to -- you know, I think the elements
 - of crime are much more particularized than that.
 - 6 Now, I think they generally will -- might, but you
 - 7 are not in a charging document for probable cause.
 - 8 You are going to have be more specific.
 - 9 Q. Is it the Terror Screening Center's view 10 that individuals engaged in terrorism or terrorist
 - 11 activities are engaged in criminal activity?
 - 12
 - MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a
 - 13 legal conclusion. You can answer.
 - THE WITNESS: So there is no federal
 - 15 criminal statute that is that brief. The federal
 - 16 criminal statutes have elements that you have to
 - 17 meet the elements.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
 - 19 Q. So what does this --
 - A. And your description does not -- does not 21 give the elements of any particular federal crime
 - 22 that I am aware.

- 1 Q. So what does terrorism mean in this
- 2 paragraph. In paragraph -- in the first paragraph
- 3 on page four, what does terrorism or terrorist
- 4 activities mean?
- 5 A. Terrorist activities are going to be --
- 6 Q. Let me withdraw the question.
- 7 A. Okay.
- 8 Q. Does the Terror Screening Center define 9 the terms terrorism and/or terrorist activities in 10 any material that it possesses?
- MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object 12 insofar as that question implicates information 13 protected by law enforcement or potentially state 14 secrets privilege. You can answer to the extent 15 that you can.
- 16 THE WITNESS: This -- this paragraph 17 cites to the standard that we apply. The actual 18 application of this in practice is the subject of 19 training materials of other -- of other things that 20 analysts use to where we train the analysts in order 21 to apply the standard.
- 22 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Does TSC define the phrase terrorism and/or terrorist activities as it appears on page
- 3 four of Exhibit A in any materials?
- 4 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
- 5 question calls for information protected by the law
- 6 enforcement and potentially state secrets privilege.
- 7 You can answer to the extent that you can.
- 8 THE WITNESS: There is no definition
- 9 other than this definition that defines those words.
- 10 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 11 Q. What definition are you referring to?
- 12 A. The one on the page that you just read.
- 13 Q. I don't see a definition of terrorism and 14 or terrorist activities on page four of Exhibit A.
- 15 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Argumentative.
- 16 Objection. Not a question.
- 17 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 18 Q. You are right. I withdraw it. Can you
- 19 identify what definition of terrorism and/or
- 20 terrorist activities you are the referring to on
- 21 page four of Exhibit A?
- 22 A. I am referring to the definition of the

1 reasonable suspicion standard.

- Q. Got it. Okay. So you agree that the
- 3 first paragraph of page four of Exhibit A defines

84 (333 to 336)

335

336

- 4 the reasonable suspicion standard of the TSDB,
- 5 correct?

6 A. Yes.

- Q. Is there -- within the reasonable -- the
- 8 definition of reasonable suspicion standard of the
- 9 TSDB, there appears the phrase, quote, terrorism and 10 or terrorist activities, unquote. Did you see that
- 11 part of the reasonable suspicion standard
- 12 definition?

13 A. I do.

- 14 Q. Is the phrase terrorism and/or terrorist 15 activities defined by TSC in any documents that it 16 has?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as it has
- 18 -- well, let me assert the objection. Objection
- 19 insofar as that question calls for information
- 20 protected by law enforcement privilege, potentially
- 21 state secrets privilege. If you think you can
- 22 answer, you can. If you would like to consult, we
- 1 can do that.
 - THE WITNESS: I can't think of a place
 - 3 where that is further defined. In our previous
 - 4 conversation, though, you were trying to equate that
 - 5 to a criminal charge. And I object to equating the
 - 6 language here to the elements of something that we
 - 7 found in the United States code.

BY MR. ABBAS:

- 9 Q. Duly noted. Does the -- does the Terror 10 Screening Center -- in any material that TSC
- 11 possesses or is aware of, is the phrase conduct
- 12 constituting defined by the Terror Screening Center?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. In any material that TSC maintains or is 15 aware of, is "in preparation for" as it appears in 16 that reasonable suspicion standard definition 17 defined by TSC.
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the 19 question calls for any information protected by law 20 enforcement other privileges. But you can answer to 21 the extent that you can.
- THE WITNESS: Along this line of

Conducted on March 1, 2018

12

338

1 questions, I think I would like to consult.

MR. ABBAS: I am going to do it for every

- 3 little kind of phrase in that. So if you guys want
- 4 to do like a global consultation.
- 5 MS. KONKOLY: Sure.
- 6 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the 7 record. The time is 5:31 p.m.
- 8 (A recess was held.)
- 9 MS. KONKOLY: So the witness has a
- 10 correction to make to some of the lines of
- 11 questioning that we have just been engaged in?
- 12 THE WITNESS: So indeed the standards --
- 13 the different causes that you have identified within
- 14 this, they are further defined in the Watch Listing
- $15\ Guidance.$ And then in the interrogatories, I made
- 16 reference to the training materials, which I started
- 17 to review to a few minutes ago for the NDIU analyst
- 18 -- that two-week class in there. And that is then
- 19 part of those training materials that is applied to
- 20 the actual application that I was talking about of
- 21 the standards.
- So this is the standard. There is not
- 1 another standard. But to further break down the
- 2 practical application of these standards is found in
- 3 the guidance and the training materials for each one
- 4 of those clauses.
- 5 Q. What is conduct constituting -- what's --
- 6 what does TSC consider conduct constituting
- 7 terrorism and/or terrorist activities?
- 8 MS. KONKOLY: And I am going to object on
- 9 the basis of the answer implicating law enforcement
- 10 sensitive information. Also calling for a legal
- 11 conclusion. You can answer to the extent that you
- 12 can.
- 13 THE WITNESS: I think without getting
- 14 into the guidance itself that's privileged, I think
- 15 the words have to stand for themselves generally. I
- 16 think it is a -- well, no, I will just leave it at
- 17 that.
- 18 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 19 Q. What is conduct in preparation for
- 20 terrorism? I'm sorry. What does TSC consider
- 21 conduct in preparation for terrorism and/or
- 22 terrorist activities?

MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object

85 (337 to 340)

339

340

- 2 insofar as that answer would implicate law
- 3 enforcement, potentially state secrets information.
- 4 Also calls for a legal conclusion. You can answer
- 5 to the extent that you can.
- THE WITNESS: Again, I don't think that I
- 7 can further answer that without getting into
- 8 privileged materials.
 - MR. ABBAS: And what are the privileges?
- MS. KONKOLY: I said law enforcement and
- 11 potential state secrets.
- 13 Q. What does Terror Screening Center

BY MR. ABBAS:

- 14 consider as conduct in aid of terrorism and/or
- 15 terrorist activities?
- MS. KONKOLY: I am going to again object.
- 17 It calls for a legal conclusion. But, also, insofar
- 18 as it calls for information protected by the law
- 19 enforcement privilege and potentially the state
- 20 secrets privilege. You can answer if you can.
- 21 THE WITNESS: I feel the same.
- 22 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 1 Q. How do you feel?
 - A. That I can't answer further beyond what's
 - on this page without getting into privileged
 - 4 materials. And, quite candidly, that's why this is
 - what's on this page.
 - 6 Q. What does TSC consider as conduct in
 - furtherance of terrorism and/or terrorist
 - 8 activities?
 - 9 MS. KONKOLY: Again, I object that it
 - 10 calls for a legal conclusion. Object on the basis
 - 11 that an answer would call for information protected
 - 12 by the law enforcement privilege and potentially
 - 13 state secrets privilege. If you think you can
 - 14 answer, you can.
 - 15 THE WITNESS: The same.
 - 16 BY MR. ABBAS:
 - 17 Q. Is learning Arabic in furtherance of
 - 18 terrorism and/or terrorist activities?
 - 19 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for
 - 20 speculation. Objection. Calls for a legal
 - 21 conclusion. Objection insofar as the answer would
 - 22 implicate law enforcement sensitive information.

86 (341 to 344)

343

344

1	You can answ	er that	if you can
	i ou can answ	or mai	II you can.

- THE WITNESS: I think that would be as
- 3 one of many factors. In context, I would say that
- 4 by itself, no. But in context of additional
- 5 factors, it could be relevant.
- 6 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 7 Q. So learning Arabic could be conduct in
- 8 furtherance of terrorism and/or terrorist
- 9 activities?
- 10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection.
- 11 Mischaracterizes prior testimony. Asked and
- 12 answered.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Not by itself.
- 14 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 15 Q. I know not by itself, but learning Arabic 16 could be conduct in furtherance of terrorism and 17 terrorist activities?
- 18 MS. KONKOLY: Objection.
- 19 Mischaracterizes --
- 20 MR. ABBAS: I'm sorry. I am going to
- 21 withdraw it. You are right. He answered it.
- 22 BY MR. ABBAS:
 - Q. What is conduct related to -- I am sorry.
- 2 What does TSC consider conduct related to terrorism
- 3 and/or terrorist activities?
- 4 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a
- 5 legal conclusion. Objection insofar as it
- 6 implicates information protected by the law
- 7 enforcement privilege or potentially the state
- 8 secrets privilege. If you think you can answer, you
- 9 can.
- THE WITNESS: I don't think I can answer
- 11 that any further without getting into privileged
- 12 information.
- 13 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 14 Q. Is -- is having a relative who is under
- 15 investigation for a terrorism-related reason conduct
- 16 related to terrorism and/or terrorist activities?
- 17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. That calls for
- 18 a legal conclusion and for speculation. It also
- 19 calls for information protected by the law
- 20 enforcement privilege, potentially state secrets. I
- 21 am going to instruct the witness not to answer.
- MR. ABBAS: And, again, I am not asking

- 1 for legal information. I am asking how the TSC
- 2 applies the standard that it has adopted for TSDB
- inclusion.
- 4 MS. KONKOLY: And my objections are on
- the record. And they stand as does the instruction.
- BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. If a person has a relative who is in the
- 3 TSDB, can their association with that person be a
- 9 basis of their inclusion in the FBI?
- 10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for
- 11 speculation; potentially calls for a legal
- 12 conclusion. Objection that that question calls for
- 13 information protected by the law enforcement
- 14 privilege, potentially state secrets. And I am
- 15 going to again instruct the witness not to answer.
- MR. ABBAS: On what grounds are you going
- 17 to instruct the witness not to answer?
- MS. KONKOLY: Law enforcement,
- 19 potentially state secrets.
- 20 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 21 Q. Is international travel conduct in
- 22 furtherance of terrorism and/or terrorist
- 1 activities?

- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for
- 3 speculation. Objection. Calls for legal conclusion
- 4 insofar as it -- I am also objecting insofar as it
- 5 implicates information protected by the law
- 6 enforcement potentially state secrets privilege.
- 7 You can answer if you think you can.
- 8 THE WITNESS: I would again say that's a
- 9 factor. And it is -- but it would be -- simply
- 10 standing alone, the fact that somebody has travelled
- 11 internationally, I don't think generally would. But
- 12 you know, it is dependent upon a combination
- 13 totality of the circumstances. And it could
- 14 certainly be relevant.
- 15 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 16 Q. Does the TSDB inclusion standard -- I am
- 17 sorry. When a person is nominated to the TSDB, must
- 18 the nomination include the prospective listee's date 19 of birth?
- 20 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
- 21 calls for law enforcement-privileged information.
- 22 You can answer if you can.

Transcript of Timothy P. Groh, Designated Representative

87 (345 to 348)

Conducted on March 1, 2018 347 THE WITNESS: It does not necessarily THE WITNESS: I don't think I can answer. 1 2 I think that's privileged. 2 require the provision of a date of birth, although 3 that will affect a screenability for various BY MR. ABBAS: 4 partners. 4 O. You don't know whether or not there is BY MR. ABBAS: children on the Terror Screen Database? Q. Most TSDB entries include date of birth MS. KONKOLY: Objection. 6 information --Mischaracterizes his testimony. He said he can't answer without providing privileged information. MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 9 speculation. MR. ABBAS: What's privileged? What's 10 BY MR. ABBAS: 10 the -- what's privileged? I'm unclear. MS. KONKOLY: I asserted -- I asserted Q. -- correct? 11 12 law enforcement, potentially state secret. 12 A. I don't know if I can actually -- I would 13 be speculating to say that that's true. MR. ABBAS: It is a state secret whether Q. For U.S. persons, does the TSC require 14 the Terror Screening Database --15 that the nominating agency identify the date of MS. KONKOLY: In an individual case, 16 birth for the person that they are nominating to be 16 state secret could apply to an individual case. And 17 included in the TSDB? 17 I am asserting those privileges. MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 18 BY MR. ABBAS: 19 calls for law enforcement sensitive privileged 19 O. How many children are in the Terror 20 information. You can answer if you can. 20 Screening Database? THE WITNESS: I think it is more likely MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 22 that U.S. persons will have date of birth, but it is 22 information implicating the law enforcement 346 348 1 privilege, potentially the state secrets. And I 1 not required. BY MR. ABBAS: will just instruct you not to answer that. Q. So there are some U.S. persons who are 3 BY MR. ABBAS: 4 included in the TSDB for which TSDB does not have Q. Is there anything about the TSDB inclusion standards that constrains TSC's ability to any date of birth information in the TSDB? MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 6 list children in the TSDB? 6 7 calls for information protected by law enforcement MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 8 privilege. Speculation. You can answer if you can. calls for information implicating the law 9 THE WITNESS: I would speculate that it enforcement privilege and potentially state secrets. 10 is possible that there is. I don't know of a 10 You can answer if you can. 11 particular one. THE WITNESS: I think the age of an 12 individual just like those other factors we talked 12 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. For the individuals in the TSDB who have 13 about is relevant. But no single factor is 14 date of birth information, TSC obviously knows how 14 dispositive. 15 old they are, correct? 15 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. Does TSC provide its personnel guidance 16 A. Yes. 17 as to how to consider the age of a prospective TSDB 17 Q. Are there children on the TSDB? I am 18 listee when TSC personnel consider accepting or 18 sorry. Are there children in the TSDB? MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 19 rejecting a nomination? 19

MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that

21 calls for information protected by law enforcement

22 privilege or potentially state secrets. If you

20 calls for information protected by the law

22 You can answer if you think you can.

21 enforcement privilege, potentially state secrets.

352

88 (349 to 352)

1 think you can answer, you can without waiving the 2 privilege.

THE WITNESS: I don't think I can answer that in particular.

5 MR. ABBAS: Because of the law

6 enforcement privilege?
 7 MS. KONKOLY: I have asserted the
 8 privileges. They are on the record.

9 BY MR. ABBAS:

10 Q. Does TSC have any information that a 11 child has ever been placed in the TSDB?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 13 information implicated by the law enforcement 14 privilege and potentially the state secrets 15 privilege. I will instruct him not to answer.

16 BY MR. ABBAS:

17 Q. How about this? Does TSC have any 18 information that an adult has ever been placed in 19 the Terror Screening Database?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Has TSC placed an adult in the Terror 22 Screening Database?

1 almost the very back, the second to last page. It

2 is page 63. Do you see your signature on page 63?

3 A. I appear – I see what appears to be my 4 signature.

5 Q. That's your signature?

6 A. Yes, it is.

Q. And why is your signature on this

8 document?

9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a 10 legal conclusion. You can answer as to your 11 understanding.

12 THE WITNESS: As the same reason that I 13 am here. I am representing the TSC. And what is in 14 this -- in the response to the interrogatories is 15 true.

BY MR. ABBAS:

17 Q. So you participated in the -- you have 18 read these answers previously, correct?

19 A. I have.

Q. And they are accurate as far as you know?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. I would like you to turn to page 14. Do

350

1 A. Yes.

Q. Has the TSC placed a child in the Terror

3 Screening Database?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for information protected by law enforcement privilege

6 and potentially the state secrets privilege. I will

7 instruct you not to answer.

8 MR. ABBAS: I mean, we will find out that 9 later.

10 MS. KONKOLY: Okay.

11 (Exhibit B, marked for identification.)

12 BY MR. ABBAS:

13 Q. I am going to introduce Exhibit B.

14 Exhibit B is the defendant's answers to Plaintiff's

15 first set of interrogatories to TSC. Mr. Groh, we

16 are not going to go through the whole document. It

17 is a very, very long. And there is a lot of

18 gobbledygook at the beginning especially. I want to

19 --

20 A. I object to the description of this 21 gobbledygook.

22 Q. Well, I want to take your attention to

1 you see at the bottom half of 14, interrogatory

2 number six?

3 A. I do.

4 Q. So I am going to ask you to review

5 interrogatory number six. That's the interrogatory

6 in bold italics. And there is a section of

7 objections. I would say that's legal gobbledegook.

8 You are welcome to review it. The part that I am

9 going to ask you about is on page 16. It is the

10 response. But you can go ahead and review that

11 actual interrogatory, objections, and response. Let

12 me know when you are done, and then I am going to 13 ask you a few questions.

14 A. (Witness reading.)

15 Q. You are done. Okay. So I am looking at 16 page 16, the response paragraph. In your response,

17 you say that you export subsets of TSDB data to

18 partner agencies and foreigner partners for use by

19 those partners in a variety of lawful terrorist

20 screening functions. Do you see where I am?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. What do you mean by lawful terrorist

Conducted on March 1, 2018

1 screening functions?

2 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for a

3 legal conclusion.

4 MR. ABBAS: It is his answer. I am

5 asking him to explain his answer.

6 MS. KONKOLY: You can answer.

7 THE WITNESS: I mean that these are

8 functions that the respective agencies are

9 authorized to do by law as part of their mission

10 that relate to -- have some nexus to terrorism and

11 ultimately has been agreed to by the Watch Listing

12 Advisory Council.

13 BY MR. ABBAS:

14 Q. Well, I see how that could be applicable 15 to partner agencies. Partner agencies you are 16 referring to like domestic entities, correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And then you have like the conjunction 19 "and" and the foreign partners. So I am imagining 20 that's kind of dividing. You have partner agencies 21 that are domestic. Is that what you meant by 22 partner agencies?

354

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And then foreign partners are --

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. -- the foreign governments?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. How -- who -- the foreign partners

7 utilizing TSDB data for lawful terror screening

8 functions. Is it TSC's testimony today that foreign

9 partners are utilizing TSDB data in compliance with

10 U.S. law?

11 A. No. Well, there may be applicable U.S.

12 laws. But I would say generally there are U.S. laws

13 that govern interactions with foreign governments.

14 So it certainly complied with those. I think beyond

15 that, that it would also, the conjunctive, both need

16 to -- well, no, I think it has to do with, yeah, our

17 laws that deal with dealing with foreign partners.

18 Q. Does TSC require foreign partners to

19 utilize TSDB information in accordance with U.S. 20 law?

21 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as this

22 answer calls for any information protected by the

1 law enforcement privilege and potentially state

2 secrets. Also calls for a legal conclusion. But

3 you can answer to the extent that you can.

4 THE WITNESS: I don't assert that by

5 signing an agreement with us suddenly American law

6 becomes applicable to a foreign partner if that's

7 what you mean.

BY MR. ABBAS:

9 Q. So TSC does not require foreign partners 10 to abide by U.S. law in how those foreign partners

11 utilize TSDB information?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection.

13 Mischaracterizes prior testimony and objection so

14 far as the answer calls for anything protected by

15 law enforcement state secrets. You can answer to

16 the extent that you can. Also calls for legal

17 conclusion.

18 THE WITNESS: I don't think it would be 19 really possible for American law to apply to a 20 foreign sovereign.

21 BY MR. ABBAS:

Q. So TSC does not require foreign partners

356

89 (353 to 356)

355

1 to utilize TSDB information in accordance with U.S.

2 law, correct?

3 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and

4 answered.

5 MR. ABBAS: Not asked and answered.

6 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as this

7 indicates any information implicating the law

8 enforcement and potentially the state secrets

9 privilege. Objection. Calls for a legal conclusion

10 and vague. You can answer to the extent that you

11 can.

12

THE WITNESS: I think there's a

13 difference -- there's a distinction that I am trying

14 to emphasize in my answer between what binds us to

15 U.S. law and what binds a partner to U.S. law. So I

16 am bound by United States law. A foreign sovereign

17 would not be. They may by agreement choose to

18 invoke certain -- certain things comparable to U.S.

19 law. But, again, we cannot bind a foreign partner

20 to U.S. law. That's simply the basis of

21 international law.

22 BY MR. ABBAS:

Conducted on March 1, 2018

Q. I don't know what you mean when you say

- lawful terror screening functions. I understand
- 3 what you mean when that regards the domestic partner
- or agencies. It is U.S. law?
- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. But like you said, the Terror Screening
- Center does not -- is not in a position to require
- foreign partners to abide by U.S. law, correct?
- A. We may in a particular agreement have an 10 agreement with the foreign partner to do things that 11 are consistent. But I do not think that that binds
- 12 the partner with the force of law.
- Q. Could a foreign partner use TSDB 13 14 information in a way that if it were used in that
- 15 manner in the U.S. would be illegal?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 16
- 17 speculation. Objection, vague. Objection insofar
- 18 as that legal conclusion. And also object insofar
- 19 as it calls for any information implicating the law
- 20 enforcement, potentially the state secrets
- 21 privilege. You can answer to the extent that you
- 22 can.
- THE WITNESS: I guess I don't know how to
- 2 answer that -- that question. I could imagine so
- 3 many different situations with particular American
- 4 legal constraints that may or may not apply in a
- 5 foreign country. You could -- if you tried to
- 6 overlap those two legal systems, I mean, you might
- 7 not. It would be totally ineffectual, so.
- Q. So it sounds like foreign partners do not
- 9 -- are not obligated to utilize TSDB information in
- 10 a manner that complies with U.S. laws?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Argumentative.
- 12 Objective. Calls -- mischaracterizes his prior
- 13 testimony.
- BY MR. ABBAS: 14
- 15 Q. I will withdraw the question. Is it true
- 16 that TSC does not require foreign partners to
- 17 utilize TSDB information in a manner that is
- 18 consistent with U.S. law?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and
- 20 answered. Objection insofar as this answer calls
- 21 for information implicating the law enforcement
- 22 privilege or the state secrets privilege. If you

- 1 think you can answer.
- THE WITNESS: I think the agreements
- stand for themselves. I think the agreement is the
- agreement. The agreement is a text of what is in
- that agreement.
- 6 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Are there -- are there agreements with
- foreign partners that do not require the foreign
- partner to utilize TSDB information in a way that is
- 10 in compliance with U.S. law?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as this 12 calls for any information protected by the law
- 13 enforcement privilege or the potential state secrets
- 14 privilege. If you think there is a way you can
- 15 answer without implicating those privileges, you 16 can.
- 17 THE WITNESS: I mean, the form of the
- 18 question makes it very, very difficult to answer.
- 19 We have obligations under U.S. law that we meet. If 20 we reach an agreement with a foreign partner -- and
- 21 I don't think every agreement the United States
- 22 makes with a foreign partner obligates that foreign
- 358 partner to follow American -- American law otherwise
 - every place would be like America. So given all of
 - 3 that --

4

- Q. I --MS. KONKOLY: Okay. Let him finish.
- 6 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. I'm sorry. If I cut you off, sorry, but
- I think we got what I was looking for.
- 9 A. Okay. Then I am done.
- 10 Q. Okay. Let's -- do you see also on page
- 11 16, do you see interrogatory number seven?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. It is a long one. And it culminates in 13
- 14 an answer on page 22 that has that chart. Do you
- 15 recall making or reviewing a chart as part of these
- 16 interrogatory responses?
- **17** A. I do.
- 18 Are you familiar with the contents of Q. 19 this chart?
- 20 Generally, yes.
- This chart identifies the number of total 21
- 22 nominations that TSC received in -- from 2008 to

Transcript of Timothy P. Groh, Designated Representative

91 (361 to 364)

Conducted on March 1, 2018 361 363 2017 on a yearly basis, correct? Q. Ninety five percent is a very high Yes. number. It is close to a hundred, right? 2 3 The total nominations refer to total MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Argumentative. Q. nominations to the Terror Screening Database, 4 BY MR. ABBAS: correct? Q. That might be a little bit argumentative. A. Yes. You know, 95 percent is a high number. That means Q. And total adds refers to the number of that -- does TSC believe that it is receiving 8 new persons that were added to the Terror Screening nominations that are credible and justified 9 Database, correct? 9 generally? A. Yes. 10 A. Absolutely, and especially given the fact 10 Q. And with regards to the rejections, you 11 that they have been reviewed at multiple levels 12 reject in every year less than 5 percent of the 12 before they get to us. 13 total nominations? Q. How many of the persons that have been in 13 14 the TSDB have committed acts of terrorism inside the MS. KONKOLY: Objection. 14 15 BY MR. ABBAS: 15 United States? Q. So 95 percent of total nominations that 16 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. That question 16 17 were submitted to the Terror Screening Center from 17 calls for information implicating the law 18 2008 to 2017 were accepted by the Terror Screening 18 enforcement privilege and potentially state secrets 19 Center, correct? 19 in two instances. I am instructing the witness not 20 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 20 to answer. THE WITNESS: It would appear it is less BY MR. ABBAS: 21 21 22 than 5 percent, yes. 22 Does TSC know how many persons that have 362 364 BY MR. ABBAS: 1 at any time been in the TSDB -- let me start all Q. Less than 5 percent of the nominations over. Does TSC know how many persons who have been from 2008 to 2017 were rejected by the Terror placed at any time in the TSDB have been charged Screening Center, correct? with a terrorism-related offense? A. Yes. MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 5 Q. So the Terror Screening Center accepts would implicate any law enforcement-privileged 7 more than 95 percent of all nominations it receives information. You can answer without -- if you can -- it has received from 2008 to 2017, correct? answer, you can. 9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague and 9 THE WITNESS: It is not a data field that 10 misleading. 10 we collect. And I don't know if you are restricting BY MR. ABBAS: 11 it to domestically or are you also including 11 12 Q. I am going to withdraw that question and 12 foreign? 13 just so I get it out cleanly. The Terror Screening BY MR. ABBAS: 13 14 Center accepted more than 95 percent of all 14 Q. I am not restricting it. 15 nominations it received from 2008 to 2017, correct? A. Then it is fair to say no, we don't know. 15 MS. KONKOLY: I am just going to object. Q. Does -- with regards to the persons who 17 Vague and misleading. And make sure that we are 17 have perpetrated acts of terrorism inside the United 18 referencing the definition of nominations that was 18 States, does TSC know how many of those persons have 19 provided in his answer in the context to this 19 been in the TSDB at any time?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.

22 enforcement-privileged information. If you can

21 Objection insofar as it calls for law

20 question.

THE WITNESS: Yes.

BY MR. ABBAS:

21

Conducted on March 1, 2018

367 1 answer, you can answer if you can. 1 nominating agencies? Q. Yes. THE WITNESS: That information is not --3 again, it is not information we keep in the TSDB. I MS. KONKOLY: Objection. That calls for 4 suppose with sufficient effort it could be information outside of TSC's purview. You can answer as to your understanding, but. discerned. THE WITNESS: Yeah, I don't know. BY MR. ABBAS: Q. Do you see in 2008 that more than 248,000 BY MR. ABBAS: nominations were received by TSC? Q. Can foreign governments nominate persons A. I do. 9 to the TSDB? O. And then in 2016 that number doubled to 10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 10 11 500 -- more than 518,000 total nominations. Do you 11 calls for any law enforcement or potentially state 12 secrets-privileged information. You can answer. If 12 see that? 13 you think you can answer without waiving, you can. A. I do. 13 THE WITNESS: Potentially pursuant to the Q. What happened between 2008 to 2016 that 15 led to a doubling of the total nominations that TSC 15 agreement with that foreign government. 16 received? 16 BY MR. ABBAS: O. And potentially. So I think it is clear 17 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. It is 17 18 in the overview document. Is it TSC that accepts 18 not clear to me that you are using this term 19 nominations to the TSDB from foreign partners? 19 consistently with the way it was expressly defined 20 within this interrogatory. Further objection as to MS. KONKOLY: Asked and answered. Same 21 any information that -- I further object to the 21 objections insofar as the answer calls for 22 extent that the answer would call for information 22 information protected by the law enforcement and 366 368 1 protected by the law enforcement privilege. If you 1 potentially state secrets. You can answer if you 2 think you understand the question and can answer, can. 3 you can. 3 THE WITNESS: Yes. THE WITNESS: I think in very broad 4 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. Has the number of -- I see the total 5 strokes -- so, one, you are referring to total 5 6 nominations. Total -- which that can be adds. Does TSC know how many persons are in the 7 modifications of record, of course, right, not adds TSDB right now? 8 when you are referring to those numbers. So that MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for

- 9 refers, in some cases, to TSDB being updated, right, 10 as opposed to the adds, which I -- you know, which 11 clearly have also gone up.
- 12 But I just want to be specific here. But 13 I think, you know, if you just look -- I think I can 14 broadly say from a geopolitical standpoint that we 15 have been engaged in a conflict with ISIS in that 16 period of time as one of many global factors going 17 on, but that being a very significant one.
- 18 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. Has the number of persons that submit 20 nominations to the Terror Screening Center gone up 21 from 2008 to 2016?
- You mean the individual people in the 22

92 (365 to 368)

- 9 information protected by -- that was formulated, 10 right, if they know. So I will just say so far as 11 an answer, a complete answer would implicate any 12 information protected by law enforcement or 13 potentially state secrets privilege, but you can 14 answer insofar as you can.
- THE WITNESS: Yes, we know how many 15 16 people are in TSDB.
- 17 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. How many people are in the TSDB? 18
- MS. KONKOLY: And there I am going to 19 20 object on the basis of law enforcement and 21 potentially state secrets privilege and instruct the 22 witness not to answer.

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Transcript of Timothy P. Groh, Designated Representative

93 (369 to 372)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

369 371 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. With regards to the more than one million 2 persons in the TSDB, some of those -- some of those Q. Is there -- are there more than a million 3 people in the TSDB? TSDB listees have never generated any encounter MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 4 information, correct? 5 information protected by the law enforcement and 5 A. Yes. 6 potentially state secrets. And I am instructing the 6 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and witness not to answer. answered. 8 BY MR. ABBAS: 8 BY MR. ABBAS: Q. Are there more than five people in the 9 O. Out of the million names in the TSDB --10 TSDB? Are there -- I mean, some numerical 10 out of the more than million names in the TSDB, is 11 information is appropriate. 11 there a lot of individuals who have not generated MS. KONKOLY: Okay. Objection insofar as 12 any encounter information? 13 this question calls for information protected by law 13 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 14 enforcement or potentially state secrets. But 14 Objection. Calls for speculation. Objection 15 insofar as there are public information that has 15 insofar as it implicates any law 16 been made available, the witness can answer. 16 enforcement-protected information. You can answer THE WITNESS: They are in excess of --17 insofar as you can. 18 there are over a million individuals in TSDB. THE WITNESS: Yes, there are a lot. 18 BY MR. ABBAS: 19 BY MR. ABBAS: 20 O. Has the increase in the number of Q. Can you -- give me your best 21 individuals in the TSDB in TSC's view enhanced the 21 characterization of what amount of TSDB listees have 22 effectiveness of the TSDB? 22 never generated encounter information? 370 372 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. speculation. Objection. Calls for speculation. Objection 3 insofar as the answer would implicate any law BY MR. ABBAS: enforcement-privileged information. You can answer Q. It is TSC's view? to the extent that you can. A. Yes. O. More names in the TSDB -- I will withdraw THE WITNESS: Say by far the majority of 6 7 that question. Why? Why does TSC believe that more 7 people in TSDB have never generated an encounter. 8 names in the TSDB furthers its counter-terrorism BY MR. ABBAS: 9 objectives? 9 Q. More than 75 percent? 10 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 10 A. I think that's fair. 11 speculation. Objection insofar an answer would Q. More than 90 percent? 11 12 implicate any law enforcement-privileged MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for 12 13 information. You can answer insofar as you can. 13 speculation. THE WITNESS: It is not more names by MR. ABBAS: If he knows. If you don't 15 itself. It is more names that are appropriately 15 know, you can just stop --16 nominated, I believe, enhance the TSDB. If -- we MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as any 17 have no interest in it being bigger for the sake of 17 answer would implicate a law enforcement or 18 it being bigger. It is bigger based on the 18 potentially state secret privilege. If you think 19 intelligence that we have. The better that that 19 you can answer without waiving. THE WITNESS: I think I would say in 20 represents the threat that is facing the nation and 21 our partners, the more effective it will be. 21 excess of 90 percent. And I would want to cut it 22 BY MR. ABBAS: 22 off there.

376

Conducted on March 1, 2018

373

1	BY MR	ABBAS:
1	DI MIX.	ADDAS.

- Q. Okay. And so in excess of 90 percent of
- all TSDB listees have never generated any encounter
- information?

5 A. That's correct.

- MS. KONKOLY: Could we take a break? I 6
- could stand to stretch --
- 8 MR. ABBAS: Yeah, I hear you. I'm not 9 going to fight that.
- 10 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the
- 11 record. The time is 6:12 p.m.
- 12 (A recess was held.)
- 13 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the
- 14 record. The time is 6:28 p.m. And we have been on
- 15 the record for 6 hours and 43 minutes.
- 16 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 17 Q. What is the last publicly available total 18 of TSDB listees?
- A. I believe it was a million individuals in 20 2016 -- 2016.
- 21 Q. A million total?
- 22 Yes.
- Q. How many TSC employees are authorized to
- remove persons from the TSDB?
- 3 A. To remove persons?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 4
- 5 THE WITNESS: All of those transactions
- 6 require two individuals. So I would say at least 35
- 7 individuals, but it may be as high as 90 on a
- 8 removal. But -- and that would require two
- 9 individuals. But the second one may have to be one
- 10 of the 35, but it may be as high as 90. I am basing
- 11 it on that level of authority within.
- 12 MR. ABBAS: Indiana.
- BY MR. ABBAS: 13
- Q. How many TSC employees are authorized to
- 15 accept or reject nominations to the TSDB?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 16
- THE WITNESS: There are approximately 35 17 18 individuals that would be the final -- there may be
- 19 other people that looked at it before that. But to
- 20 be the final approval before it actually goes into
- 21 TSDB, approximately 35.
- 22 BY MR. ABBAS:

- Q. How many layers of review are there for
- removal actions?
 - A. Two.
- Q. How many layers of review are there for
- decisions regarding TSDB nominations?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
- would call for information protected by the law
- enforcement privilege. You can answer to the extent
- that you can.
- 10 THE WITNESS: So I think that depends on
- 11 the nomination. It is at least two. It may be more
- 12 depending on particularized criteria pertaining to
- 13 that nomination.
- 14 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 15 Q. How many persons does TSC remove from the 16 TSDB on a yearly basis?
- 17
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 18 calls for any information protected by the law
- 19 enforcement privilege. You can answer to the extent
- 20 that you can.
- 21 THE WITNESS: I don't believe I can
- 22 answer that.

374

1 BY MR. ABBAS:

- Q. Does TSC know how many persons have been
- removed from the TSDB in 2017?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as a
- complete answer would call for any information
- protected by the law enforcement privilege, but you
- can answer.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Yes, TSC knows.
- 9 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 10 Q. Does TSC know how many individuals were
- 11 removed from the TSDB in all calendar years?
- MS. KONKOLY: Same objection insofar as 12
- 13 any answer would call for any law enforcement
- 14 privileged information. But you can answer.
- 15 THE WITNESS: I would say generally, yes.
- 16 The only thing is you go way back to the beginning.
- 17 And I can't attest to exactly when that capability
- 18 came online. I believe it would be the case for
- 19 everything represented on this chart.
- 20 BY MR. ABBAS:
- Q. So for the last 10 years, TSC knows how 21
- 22 many persons it has removed from the TSDB?

18 receive statistical information regarding the 19 performance of the TSDB?

MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague. 20

21 THE WITNESS: You know, regarding the

22 performance, we receive a lot of different

22 can.

19

MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the

20 answer would implicate any law enforcement sensitive

21 information. You can answer to the extent that you

Conducted on March 1, 2018

3

4

1 THE WITNESS: I think there is a TSDB

- 2 monthly report. I think there is an encounter
- 3 weekly report. There is a daily encounter report.
- 4 I am trying to think of -- I believe Redress
- 5 produces a report. It doesn't come to me, but it
- 6 goes to Ms. Burriesci. I am sure there are more,
- 7 but those are the ones that come to mind.
- 8 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 9 Q. Arizona. Is TSC involved in assisting 10 federal agencies who utilize TSDB information for
- 11 screening purposes and hoping those agencies confirm
- 12 whether or not they have actually encountered a
- 13 person in the TSDB?

14 A. Yes. We call that identity resolution.

- 15 Q. How does TSC provide identity resolution 16 support to federal agencies that utilize TSDB 17 information?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as the 19 answer would implicate any law enforcement 20 privileged information. But you can answer.
- 21 THE WITNESS: The screening agency will
- 22 contact us through any one of a number of variety of
- 1 means. They provide the information that they
- 2 believe that leads them to believe they may have
- 3 encountered someone. And we then compare that to
- 4 information in TSDB. And, in some cases, we compare
- 5 that to information beyond TSDB. It may even come
- 6 down to the original derogatory information. We may
- 7 not be able to share that with the screening agency.
- 8 But there may be information there that we can ask
- 9 questions to rule in or rule out the individual
- 10 that's been encountered. And we can make the
- 11 decision as to whether or not we believe the person
- 12 is identical to the person in the database.
- 13 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 14 Q. Are there -- is there dedicated TSC staff 15 that assists recipients of TSDB information in
- 16 identity resolution efforts?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. How many TSC persons provide recipients 19 of TSDB information assistance with identity 20 resolution efforts?
- 21 A. I think that unit has approximately 40 22 individuals.

- Q. And those people are called by the
- 2 screening agencies?
 - A. In some cases.
 - Q. In other cases, what happens?
- 5 A. It could be via some other platform. It 6 could be via email. It depends on the nature of the

96 (381 to 384)

383

- enforcement.
 Q. TSA calls TSC, correct? I am sorry.
- 9 When TSA has a potential TSDB listee that's trying
- 10 to check into a flight, TSC receives a call from 11 TSA.
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that 13 would implicate any SSI.
- 14 BY MR. ABBAS:
- 15 Q. I will ask the question differently. I 16 will ask the question differently. Does TSC receive 17 calls from TSA?
- 18 A. We are contacted by TSA. I don't believe 19 I can I can state exactly how they contact us.
- 20 Q. Do they contact you by phone?
- MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as any
- 22 answer would implicate SSI. If you think you can
- 382
- 1 answer, you can.
 - THE WITNESS: I don't believe I can
 - further specify how they contact us.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
 - 5 Q. You testified that screening agencies
 - 6 contact -- let's talk about CBP. Does the CBP
 - 7 contact TSC by phone when it believes that it is
 - 8 screening a person who is in the TSDB?
 - 9 MS. KONKOLY: Objection insofar as that
 - 10 would call for law enforcement privileged
 - 11 information. You can answer if you think you can.
 - 12 THE WITNESS: Again, with CBP I don't
 - 13 think I can get into details about how they, in
 - 14 particular, contact us. But they do contact us.
 - BY MR. ABBAS:
 - 16 Q. You can't tell me whether it was by phone 17 or by email?
 - 18 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Asked and 19 answered.
 - 20 BY MR. ABBAS:
 - 21 Q. Why can't you tell me whether the TS -- 22 CBP contacts you by phone or by email?

97 (385 to 388)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

385	387
1 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Calls for law	1 record. The time is 6:44 p.m.
2 enforcement	2 (At 6:44 p.m., the deposition was
3 MR. ABBAS: I withdraw the question.	3 concluded.)
4 BY MR. ABBAS:	4
5 Q. Have you, Mr. Groh, as an executor of the	5
6 Terror Screening Center ever recommended raising the	6
7 bar for the TSDB's inclusion standard?	7
8 MS. KONKOLY: Objection. Vague.	8
9 Objection insofar as that would call for	9
10 deliberative process privileged information. You	10
11 can answer if you can.	11
12 THE WITNESS: I have not personally	12
13 advocated for changing the reasonable suspicion	13
14 standard.	14
15 BY MR. ABBAS:	15
16 Q. Are you aware of any prior members of	16
17 TSC's executive leadership team who have recommended	17
18 raising the bar for the TSDB's inclusion standard?	18
MS. KONKOLY: Objection. I think that	19
20 calls for deliberative process, protected	20
21 information. If you think there is a way to answer	21
22 without waiving that privilege, you can.	22
386	388
1 THE WITNESS: No, I don't think I could	1 ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DEPONENT
2 waive that. Yeah, I think the privilege applies.	2
3 BY MR. ABBAS:	3
4 Q. Two minutes. Has Charles Kable and	4 I, TIMOTHY P. GROH, do hereby acknowledge
5 that's the name of the Terror Screening Center,	5 that I have read and examined the foregoing
6 right?	6 testimony and the same is a true, correct and
7 A. It is Charles Kable.	7 complete transcription of the testimony given by me
8 Q. Has Charles Kable ever recommended	8 and any corrections appear on the attached errata
9 raising the bar for the TSDB's inclusion standard?	9 sheet signed by me.
MS. KONKOLY: I am going to object that	10
11 that appears to call for deliberative process	11
12 privileged information. If you think you can answer	12 (SIGNATURE) (DATE)
13 without waiving that privilege, you can.	13
14 THE WITNESS: I do not.	
	14
BY MR. ABBAS:	14 15
16 Q. When is the next meeting of the Watch	14 15 16
16 Q. When is the next meeting of the Watch 17 Listing Advisory Council?	14 15 16 17
 16 Q. When is the next meeting of the Watch 17 Listing Advisory Council? 18 A. Within the next two weeks. 	14 15 16 17 18
 Q. When is the next meeting of the Watch Listing Advisory Council? A. Within the next two weeks. MR. ABBAS: Can I come? I think that's 	14 15 16 17 18 19
 16 Q. When is the next meeting of the Watch 17 Listing Advisory Council? 18 A. Within the next two weeks. 19 MR. ABBAS: Can I come? I think that's 20 it. We are done. Thanks so much. I really 	14 15 16 17 18 19 20
 Q. When is the next meeting of the Watch Listing Advisory Council? A. Within the next two weeks. MR. ABBAS: Can I come? I think that's 	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

Case 1:16-cv-00375-AJT-JFA Document 306-28 Filed 03/12/19 Page 100 of 100 PageID# 14345 Transcript of Timothy P. Groh, Designated Representative 98 (389 to 39)

Conducted on March 1, 2018

98 (389 to 392)

1 CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY PUBLIC	
2 3 I, Carla L. Andrews, the officer before	
4 whom the foregoing deposition was taken, do hereby 5 certify that the witness, whose testimony appears in	
6 the foregoing deposition was duly sworn by the	
7 Notary, that the testimony of said witness was taken	
8 by me in stenotype and thereafter reduced to9 typewritten form under my supervision, that said	
10 deposition is a true record of the testimony given	
11 by said witness; that I am neither counsel for,	
12 related to, nor employed by any of the parties to	
13 the action in which this deposition was taken, and	
14 further that I am not a relative or employee of any	
15 attorney or counsel employed by the parties thereto	
16 nor financially or otherwise interested in the 17 outcome of the action.	
17 outcome of the action.	
18 (grl L andrews)	
20 Carla L. Andrews, Notary Public 21 for the District of Columbia	
22 My Commission Expires: January 14, 2019	
ZZ IVIY COMMISSION Expires. January 14, 2017	